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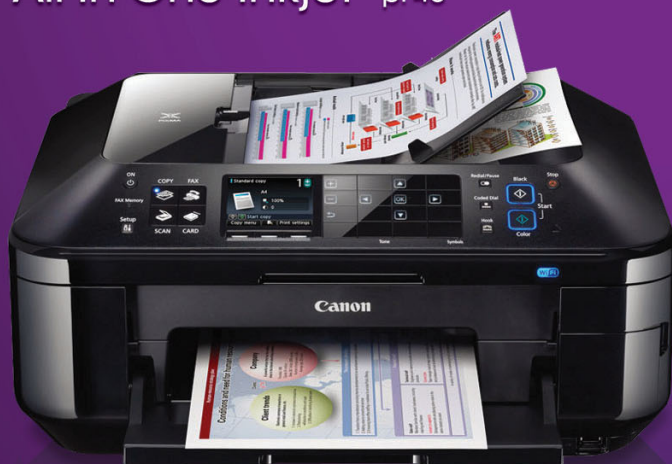


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EVERY REVOLUTION
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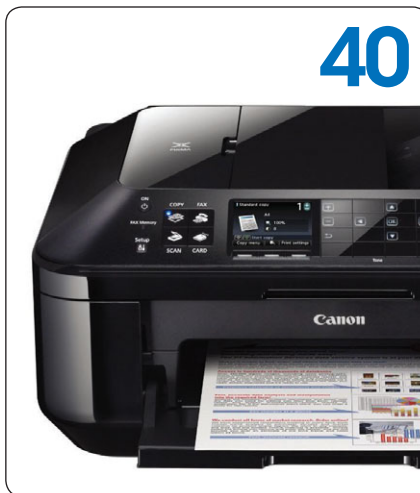


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On page 79 of last month's issue, it was noted that some consumer and professional models of LG HDTVs include public display settings. That information was incorrect, as only professional LG models offer those settings.

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The Connected Home

Discover New Possibilities With Today's Technology

TODAY A WIDE VARIETY of digital devices and technologies work together to make all kinds of information available whenever and wherever you need it. Stream movies to your home theater; download photos from a relative overseas to a photo frame in your living room; or upload music from your MP3 player to your car. Whatever you want to do, there's a product out there to help you do it. Use this digital home blueprint to identify the types of things you want to do, and then go to the appropriate pages to learn about related products and technologies.

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For many of us, a cell phone is a daily companion, and it's a device that's constantly evolving. To learn about the latest in phone tech, features, and accessories, take a look at our Portable Devices section.



ce news

COMPILED BY ANDREW LEIBMAN

All The Data In The World

Researchers at the USC Annenberg School for Communication & Journalism have calculated the amount of data humankind is capable of storing, and it's a lot. The total storage capacity of all digital and analog devices is equal to 295 exabytes or roughly 309 million terabytes. Even so, that's less than 1% of the data contained in human DNA. Between 1986 and 2007, global telecommunications grew 28% annually, storage capacity expanded 23% every year, and computing capacity ballooned 58% each year, the lattermost of which is a factor of 10 faster than the United States' GDP during that timeframe.

Source: USC



How Secure Is Your Username?

Sure, you've heard ad nauseum the perils of using a simple password, but according to researchers from France's National Institute for Research in Computer Science and Control, a unique username may make you easy prey for criminals and overzealous marketers alike. The researchers discovered, somewhat counterintuitively, that unique usernames can be a security risk, especially when they consist of or suggest your real name and identity. This is because unique usernames are easier to trace, especially when reused across multiple social networking and online services.

Source: INRIA

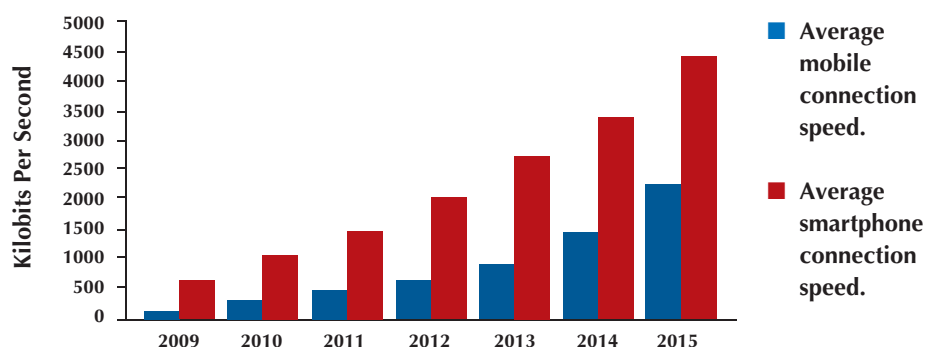
m a r k e t p l a c e

Mobile Networks Accelerating

According to the Cisco Visual Networking Index, global mobile data traffic is getting where it needs to go faster than ever. In the latest report, Cisco found that mobile network download connection speeds increased twofold between 2009 and 2010; from 101Kbps to 215Kbps. When Cisco factored in only smartphones, which tend to be higher-bandwidth devices, the download speeds jumped from 613Kbps in 2009 to 1,036Kbps in 2010. By 2015, Cisco estimates that the average mobile connection speed will be 2,220Kbps and the average smartphone connection speed will be a whopping 4,404Kbps.

Source: Cisco

Mobile Networks Accelerating

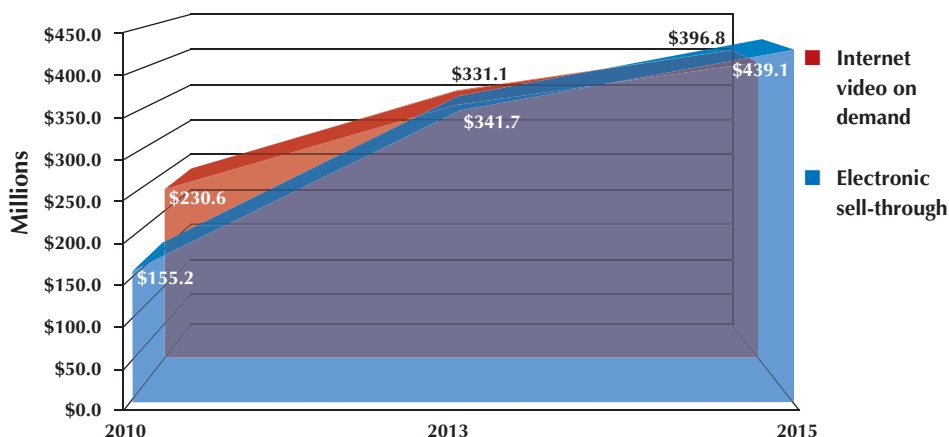


Online Movie Rentals Outpacing Purchases

New IHS Screen Digest research points to the sharp revenue rise in iVOD (Internet video on demand), or movie rentals, compared to more modest gains for EST (electronic sell-through), or movie purchases. In 2013, IHS predicts that U.S. movie iVOD will rake in \$341.7 million to overtake EST, which will take in \$331.1 million in revenue that year. In 2015, iVOD movie revenue will climb to \$439.1 million while EST revenue will reach \$396.8 million.

Source: IHS Screen Digest

U.S. Online Movie Revenue



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tidbits

Blu-ray Disc production exceeded 400 million units in 2010, an increase of almost 60% compared to 2009, and that's not even counting PS3 games. By the end of 2014, Futuresource expects 2 billion BDs to be manufactured in that year alone.

Source: Futuresource Consulting

The worldwide ebook market grew by approximately 200% in 2010, with more than 90 million units selling, worth over \$900 million. Ebooks in the United States accounted for 80% of global revenues from the ebook market.

Source: Futuresource Consulting

As of November 2010, visits to Web-based email sites have declined 6% compared to 2009, while simultaneously mobile device-based email checking has increased 36%.

Source: comScore

You love your digital camera, and apparently, so does everyone else. There are approximately 3.5 billion cameras in use worldwide and more than 1 trillion digital images stored. Among shutterbugs in the UK, France, and Germany, 90% share images with friends and family.

Source: Futuresource Consulting



Bigger Gets Better

70-inch Sharp AQUOS Quattron LC-70LE732U LED TV

Sharp continues to redefine the large-screen TV category by introducing the industry's first 70-inch LED TV, the AQUOS LC-70LE732U (\$3,299.99; www.sharpsusa.com). The combination of this new size and Sharp's exclusive Quattron quad pixel technology, Full HD 1080p resolution, a 120Hz Fine Motion Advanced refresh rate, and a brand-new suite of Internet-connected TV features including built-in Wi-Fi and streaming services make this a home-theater addition you can build your home viewing experience around.

The Large-Screen Advantage

Offering advanced features, Sharp's 70-inch AQUOS Quattron LED TV is built with value in mind, and it offers 62% more screen area than a 55-inch TV. With built-in Quattron technology, you'll enjoy high-end picture quality and a fully immersive TV experience. The HDTV's quad pixel technology adds a fourth subpixel (yellow) to the traditional red/green/blue pixel structure, making it possible to see vivid colors, such as deep golds, yellows, and more realistic ocean blues. And because it uses a full-array LED backlight, the video brightness and color is more uniform.

With built-in Wi-Fi, it's easier than ever to connect to the most popular online services such as CinemaNow, Netflix, and Napster. DLNA compatibility allows you to conveniently share video between a PC and the TV, and the IP Control feature can tie the TV in to a home control system such as Control4. Plus, with the help of Sharp's real-time customer support service, AQUOS Advantage Live, you can be sure you have the best-looking picture in your home.

For the video game enthusiast, the 70-inch LC-70LE732U can create the most thrilling game experiences, and not just due to the big screen. The Vyper Drive game mode is designed to minimize the lag time between a game console and the TV, all but eliminating that annoying delay.



AQUOS Quattron LC-70LE732U LED TV
\$3,299.99 | SKU: 2047632 | www.sharpsusa.com

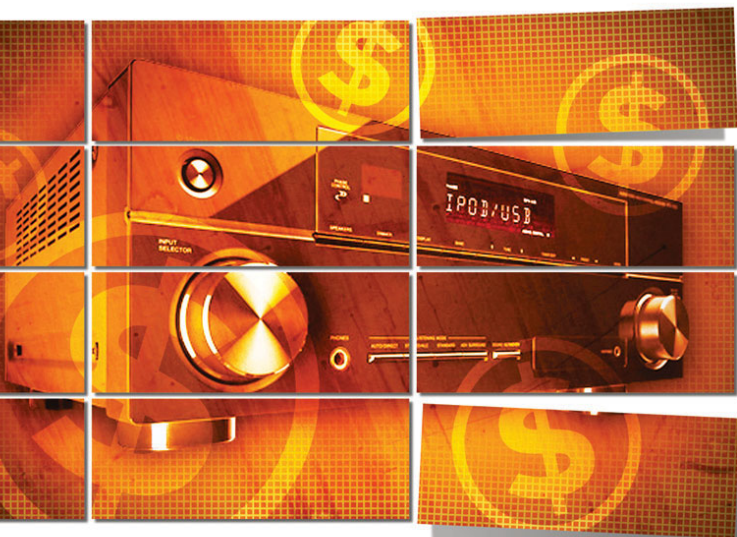
Key Features

- Full HD 1080p edge-lit LED TV
- Quad Pixel Plus technology
- Built-in Wi-Fi with Internet-connected TV services
- Inputs: 4 HDMI, 2 USB, 1 PC, 1 Ethernet, and 1 RS-232C
- Meets Energy Star requirements

HOW TO BUY

An A/V Receiver

Choose A Home-Theater Hub



An A/V receiver is central to your home theater in several ways. It distributes surround sound from your movies, games, music collection, and TV shows to your speakers. A receiver can also act as a video switch for your HDTV when you want to watch a cable or satellite channel, play a video game, or pop a BD (Blu-ray Disc) or DVD into your player. Bear these tips in mind as you shop.

Standalone or in a set?

You can buy an A/V receiver as an individual component at many electronics stores. Alternatively, you can buy an HTiB (home theater in a box). An HTiB is a kit with a receiver, a set of speakers, a subwoofer, a remote, and often a DVD or BD player.

... a receiver,
a set of speakers,
a subwoofer,
a remote, and
often a DVD
or BD player.

3D pass-through. For a home theater, it's a good idea to future-proof your purchase as much as possible. Shop for an A/V receiver that supports 3D video pass-through. With a growing number of 3D telecasts, BDs, and video games, members of your family may already be itching to experience them.

... it's a
good idea to
future-proof
your purchase

Surround-sound format support. Speaking of audio, a full-featured A/V receiver should be able to decode (make audible) DTS-HD Master Audio and all other BD and DVD sound formats, such as Dolby Digital Plus and Dolby TrueHD. Although some BD players can do this on their own, chances are good that you'll get better sound by setting your player to let the receiver handle the decoding (called bitstream or raw mode).

... you'll get
better sound
by setting your
player to let the
receiver handle
the decoding

Tailor to your situation. Speaking very generally, the bigger your home-theater room, the more RMS wattage your new A/V receiver should have. All else being equal, a higher-wattage receiver can sustain a louder volume level, so it can fill a larger room with sound.

Also, if you have an older TV or device that doesn't have an HDMI port, make sure that your new receiver supports its type of audio and video connections.

BY MARTY SEMS

Your Portal To Network Entertainment

Sony SMP-N100 Streaming Player With Wi-Fi

If there's a missing link between your HDTV and the content you want, feast your eyes on the Sony SMP-N100 Streaming Player with Wi-Fi (\$129.99; www.sonymstyle.com). This home-theater addition offers up to Full HD 1080p video quality and makes it easy to enjoy online content and the media files saved on your home network, all on your HDTV.

A Personal Showcase

Your digital photos, video, and music files are just waiting to be unleashed. With the SMP-N100 and a wireless (802.11n recommended) or wired network connection, you can stream your media files from your PC and other DLNA-compatible devices to your home theater in no time. The Streaming Media Player supports most audio and video formats, including iTunes, Windows Audio, and DivX HD.



Sony SMP-N100 Streaming Player With Wi-Fi
\$129.99 | www.sonymstyle.com

Infinity & Beyond

How deep is your media collection? Consider it a drop in the bucket compared to the online content available to the SMP-N100. There are high-quality movies and TV shows from online subscription services, such as Netflix, Amazon Video on Demand, and Hulu Plus, plus the wild video frontier of YouTube. And with Pandora and Slacker, you can stream the music you love most from the Web.

Simplicity

Accessing your entertainment options with the SMP-N100 is a cinch. Simply find the media you want with the Streaming Media Player's included remote, or you can opt to download a free app to make any iPhone, iPod touch, or compatible Android phone into a versatile remote control. And it's worth noting that although the SMP-N100 is made to be enjoyed by anyone, parental controls will keep you in charge of younger family members' viewing privileges.

Essential Specs

- 1080p Full HD with HDMI output
- Built-in Wi-Fi (802.11b/g/n) and Ethernet
- Can stream media from compatible DLNA devices
- BRAVIA Internet Video includes popular apps, such as Netflix, YouTube, and Hulu Plus
- Precision CinemaHD Upscaler improves SD and Web video quality
- 1 USB input

Active Shutter & Passive Polarized 3D TV

What's The Difference?



3D TVs can make a movie come to life, but in order to enjoy 3D imagery, you need 3D glasses. There are two types of 3D technology used by TV manufacturers—active shutter or passive—and no matter which one you choose, you'll need to don eyewear for 3D viewing. We'll take a look at the differences between these two technologies and what they mean in terms of your 3D home-theater experience.

Passive Polarized 3D TVs

- HDTVs that use passive polarized 3D technology use glasses that are typically made of inexpensive plastic, such as those you'll find in movie theaters for viewing 3D films.
- Battery-free passive polarized 3D glasses are flicker-free and light. You can use these 3D glasses to watch movies from any viewing angle in your home-theater room.
- Polarized 3D glasses look like tinted sunglasses and work in conjunction with a polarized filter on a 3D TV to produce the 3D image. When watching content on an HDTV that uses polarized 3D eyewear, you're viewing a horizontal and vertical image simultaneously. One lens of the glasses lets in the horizontal image and the other lets in the vertical image; your brain combines these and comprehends it as 3D.

Active Shutter 3D TVs

- HDTVs that support active shutter 3D technology transmit a signal to a receiver built into active shutter 3D glasses. Active shutter 3D glasses use a power source to alternately block images from reaching the right and left lens at a fast rate. At the same rate, the active shutter 3D TV displays left and right images one after another (known as shuttering). This tricks your eyes into seeing two separate images; you'll perceive the result as 3D.
- If you need to individually purchase compatible eyewear for an active shutter 3D HDTV, expect to pay more than you would for passive polarized eyewear. Due to their built-in receivers, they range in price from \$100 to \$199.

Bigger, Brighter, Sharper

Plasma Displays Offer Multiple Benefits



Of the two major types of flat-panel displays, plasma and LCD, you may be more familiar with LCDs, in which glass plates surround an array of liquid crystals. Plasma displays, on the other hand, work by layering between glass plates a matrix of millions of tiny cells, each of which contains inert gasses that light up in response to the application of a specific voltage. It's more complicated, but plasma displays offer certain benefits that make the technology well worth considering.

Bigger Is Better—& Often Less Expensive

You can get fairly large displays of either type, but the largest LCDs tend to be more expensive than equivalent plasma displays of the same size. And while the bulk of traditional LCD TVs tend to top out at about 45 inches, plasma displays can easily be 60 inches or larger. So, if you're looking for a giant-sized flat-screen TV experience, keep plasma in mind as an option: It's often your best buy for supersized video and television.

Contrast & Brightness

Today's LCD images are excellent, but all else being equal, plasma displays often offer brighter, sharper displays of superior contrast. That's especially true when the image is displayed in a darkened room, which of course is exactly how we often view television and movies.

Clarity & Motion Tracking

LCDs can be prone to blurry motion or to artifacts—on-screen specks and noise that can disrupt your viewing. Plasma screens refresh much more often than LCDs do, which improves motion tracking and reduces ghosting—those after-images that may briefly appear during high-action sequences. Plasma also offers better color saturation and faster response times than LCDs, both of which also help reduce image flaws and produce sharp true-to-life images.

Better Viewing Angles

You may have noticed that it's sometimes difficult to see an LCD if you're viewing it from an angle. New LCDs offer better viewing angles than before, but plasma screens still offer wider viewing angles than most LCDs.

ESSENTIAL THINGS TO KNOW

Audio Options

Q Will my HDTV's speakers provide high-quality sound?

A Probably not; an HDTV's built-in speakers aren't typically designed for anything approaching the fidelity, depth, and immersive qualities that external speaker systems offer.

Q I want a full-featured surround-sound speaker system, but I don't want the complexity of finding individual components. Are there alternatives?

A Yes; look for an HTiB (home theater in a box), which contains everything your home theater needs—speakers, an A/V receiver, and potentially even a Blu-ray Disc or DVD player.

Q What's an A/V receiver?

A An A/V receiver is a device through which you can run all the audio from your various home-theater devices to external speakers. They also route video from components, such as a disc player or DVR, to your HDTV. Sometimes they're sold with HTiB kits, and sometimes separately.

Q What do the numbers regarding speaker setups (2.1, 5.1, 7.1, etc.) mean?

A The first number (2, 5, or 7) refers to the number of satellite speakers in the set; the second number (.1) indicates a subwoofer. For example, a 5.1 speaker configuration includes a center speaker, two front speakers, two rear speakers, and a subwoofer.

Q I don't have a lot of space for a bunch of speakers. Are there lower-profile options?

A Yes; consider a sound bar, whose amplifier and speakers are encased in one large horizontal bar. They're designed to fit above or below your HDTV and are wall-mountable.

Q What kinds of audio cables will I need to connect my speaker system?

A If you've purchased an HTiB, it will likely include cables. To connect component speakers and other devices, you'll need a combination of HDMI, digital optical, digital coaxial, or stereo audio cables (which are analog), depending on your particular setup. Digital cables typically provide the best audio quality through speakers.

Q If I put together my home-theater audio system from individual components, what should I know?

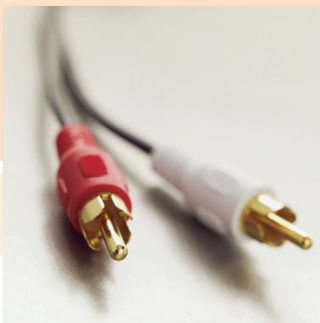
A Ensure that your speakers can handle the wattage of your receiver. Further, try to at least buy speakers in matched pairs to ensure more uniform sound.

Q How can I eliminate cable clutter across my living room with surround-sound speakers?

A If you opt for a wireless speaker system, the A/V receiver can send audio signals wirelessly to the rear speakers in your setup. This eliminates the need to connect the furthest speakers in your setup with cable.

Q Do I need any special equipment for an audio system to work with a 3D TV?

A Make sure you have an A/V receiver equipped with 3D video pass-through to ensure the audio produced by your speakers is properly synced with the TV's 3D video. You'll also need high-speed HDMI cables.



Yes, You Need To Calibrate

Get Optimal HDTV Video Results

Why A Professional Calibration?

- Calibration specialists are ISF (Imaging Science Foundation)-certified, which means they are trained to use highly specialized and expensive equipment to calibrate HDTVs correctly.
- A calibration DVD might be a tempting alternative, but it won't let you adjust all of your HDTV's settings. An ISF-certified professional can access advanced service menus to calibrate your TV correctly. These settings aren't meant to be experimented with, so if you poke around and gain access to your TV's service menu, it's best to leave it alone. Many people have rendered their TVs useless because they didn't heed this warning.

Your Video May Not Be All That It Seems

- Most TVs are shipped with a set standard video mode meant for an electronics store display—this means that the TV's settings are adjusted to show the best picture in a bright, fluorescent-lit environment. Because it's unlikely your lighting at home matches the store's surroundings, you should have your TV professionally calibrated by a specialist to accommodate your home's unique lighting environment.
- An HDTV's viewing angle and your home-theater setup also affect how your HDTV should be calibrated. An ISF-certified professional takes these factors into account when making adjustments.
- Although you can expect to budget 10 to 15% of the purchase price of your television for a professional calibration, consider it an entertainment investment that will pay dividends for years to come.

What You Can Expect

- A calibration session includes two inputs on the set, so no matter which you use, you will get the best image clarity and sharpness your HDTV can provide.
- A professional will use color analyzer equipment to objectively tune color saturation and temperature as precisely as possible, letting you see video exactly the same way it looked when it was created.
- Your HDTV's contrast will be set up to provide greater video detail as well as the darkest blacks and brightest whites.





HDTV Glossary

Balderdash! OK, HDTV jargon isn't quite *that* bad, but there are a few terms that every shopper needs to know. Here is your cheat sheet.

aspect ratio—Put simply, it's the shape of the TV's screen. An HDTV has a wider picture than a traditional TV of the same vertical screen height. An HDTV has a 16:9 aspect ratio, meaning that if its screen were 16 inches wide, it would be 9 inches tall. A regular 4:3 TV screen would be 12 inches wide at the same 9-inch height.

HDMI (High-Definition Multimedia Interface)—A type of cable connection that carries both high-resolution video and uncompressed multichannel audio between HDTVs, home-theater receivers, and the other components required for your home-theater setup. HDMI cables maintain top picture and sound quality.

HD tuner—A built-in tuner for receiving local high-def broadcast TV channels. You won't need one if you have cable or satellite service. Most HDTVs include one, but separate HD tuners and antennas are available if your TV doesn't have one.

interlaced—When an HDTV displays an interlaced image, as in 1080i or 480i resolutions, it really shows you every other horizontal line of a frame of video (called a field) at a time. Sixty times a second, the TV displays the other field of the frame, or the lines not shown in the previous field. Interlaced video can appear to flicker or might cause moving objects on-screen to have blurred edges.

LCD (liquid-crystal display)—Like a notebook's screen, an LCD HDTV uses a fluid crystal substance to form pixels of color in front of a back-light. LCDs may not be able to match plasma TVs' deep black and gray areas, but they're lighter, sometimes less fragile, and considered easier to set up. These work better in brighter rooms or if you will be playing unchanging images on the screen for an extended period of time.

plasma—Plasma TVs use a tiny tube of gas for each pixel, and electricity makes each pixel glow. Plasmas create deeper blacks and sometimes brighter colors than LCDs and have better contrast. These also offer slightly better viewing angles. However, older or less expensive models can also suffer from permanent screen

damage if an unchanging image, such as a TV channel's stock ticker or parts of certain video games, is displayed too long.

progressive scan—A TV showing a progressively scanned image, as in 1080p or 720p resolutions, displays a full frame of video (both odd-lined and even-lined fields) all at once. Progressive scan video looks sharper than interlaced does and doesn't flicker.

projection—Some large-screen HDTVs offer lower-priced alternatives to LCDs or plasmas by using projection technologies. These technologies vary, but all projection TVs throw light on a screen from the front or rear. This means they are bulkier than plasmas or LCDs, but some sets have stellar picture quality.

viewing angle—No matter where you sit in front of an HDTV with a wide viewing angle, such as 170 degrees, its picture should look reasonably good. Test this before you buy.

widescreen—A TV or monitor that's wider horizontally in relation to its vertical height. HDTVs typically have a 16:9 aspect ratio rather than an older 4:3 display.

HDTVs

Screen Technology Differences



LCD (liquid-crystal display)

LCDs can use one of two backlight technologies. CCFLs (cold cathode fluorescent lamps) are the most common, but LEDs are the latest backlight technology to hit the LCD scene. (See the “LED” section for more info on LED TVs.)

Pros

- The thin profiles and light weight of LCDs make them easy to mount on a wall.
- Power demands are a bit lower than comparably sized plasma displays and considerably lower than CRT televisions.

Cons

- Fast-moving images may suffer from a slight trailer effect, but with improved

LCD technology, the effect is barely perceptible.

- When pixels stick on or off, they show up as either a pinpoint of bright light or black, which can be distracting on-screen.
- From certain viewing angles, LCDs will lose video contrast and color.
- LCDs with CCFL backlighting suffer from leaking light, and unlike LEDs, they can’t dim certain areas on-screen. This may result in blacks and whites that appear to be more gray in color.

Best For

- Streaming PC content
- Bright, sunny rooms

LED (light-emitting diode)

LED TVs are actually a type of LCD TV. These sets use one of two LED backlight technologies:

- Full-array lighting places LEDs behind the screen in a grid pattern, letting the TV dim certain LEDs for the best contrast ratios available.
- Edge-lit sets have LEDs placed around the frame of the TV, and light is directed toward the center of the screen. Edge-lit models cost less than full-array sets and are a lot thinner.

Pros

- By using LEDs, these sets use a lot less electricity than other HDTVs, and

they don’t contain harmful mercury.

- Overall, LED TVs are one-third thinner than other LCD TVs and have longer life spans.
- Plasmas are well-known for their deep blacks, crisp whites, and fast response times, but LED TVs closely match in performance.

Cons

- These sets are costly because they feature a relatively new technology.
- Blooming, or a halo effect, may encircle bright images that are on dark backgrounds.

Best For

- Eco-conscious viewers
- Fast-paced gaming

Plasma

Pros

- A plasma TV’s phosphors light up evenly across the screen to create images, which are consistently bright and clear with vibrant colors.
- The contrast ratio is high, so you’ll see some of the darkest blacks and brightest whites.

- The design and technology of plasma TVs lend themselves to large screen sizes—typically 42 inches or greater.
- Rapid pixel response means no blurry motion.
- Wide viewing angles give you the same high-quality images on-screen no matter where in the room you happen to be sitting.

Cons

- Some plasmas are susceptible to image burn-in if not cared for properly.
- Low air pressure and high altitudes may cause plasmas to buzz.
- Some plasmas have highly reflective glass, which isn’t ideal in sunny settings.

Best For

- Large groups who watch TV together
- Movies or sports with nonstop action

RPTV (rear-projection TV)

Pros

- RPTVs are surprisingly lightweight for their sizes.
- You’ll find exceptional picture quality on very big screens (typically 60 inches and larger).

- As screens get bigger, RPTVs tend to be more cost-effective than an LCD, LED, or plasma TV.

Cons

- With depths of 16 to 24 inches, these TVs are far too big and bulky to mount on a wall.



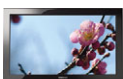





- RPTVs require lamp replacements every few years.

Best For

- Anyone who wants to bring a cinematic experience home
- Big, roomy home theaters

Should You Get An LCD Or LED-LCD TV?

So you've decided to get an LCD TV. The next step is deciding *which* LCD TV to invest in. LCDs use different kinds of lights to project an image onto the screen. A traditional LCD uses CCFLs whereas new LED-LCDs use LEDs. Here's a look at what sets apart a few of the latest LCD and LED-LCD TVs.

		Light projection	Size	Dimensions; Weight***	Native resolution	Viewing angle	Inputs & Outputs	Refresh rate**
	What It Means	How images are projected on-screen; type of backlight an LED-LCD uses	The diagonal measurement of the TV's screen	Height x width x depth; How much the TV weighs	A fixed TV resolution; images are best displayed in this	The angle at which the viewer can see the screen clearly	Inputs let you connect devices; Outputs transfer information to peripherals	Speed at which a screen is redrawn every second
	Sony KDL-32BX420 MSRP: \$529.99* SKU 2072076	CCFL	32 inches	19.6x31.5x 3.6 inches; 23 pounds	1080p	176 degrees	2 HDMI, 1 Component, 2 Composite, 1 PC, 1 USB; 2 audio outputs	60Hz
	LG 32LD400 MSRP: \$599.99* SKU 1199202	CCFL	32 inches	19.9x31.1x 3.1 inches; 20.6 pounds	1080p	178 degrees	2 HDMI, 1 Component, 1 PC, 1 USB; 1 audio output	N/A
	Toshiba 40E210U MSRP: \$599.99* SKU 2138389	N/A	40 inches	23.9x43.4x3.5 inches; 31.1 pounds	1080p	N/A	2 HDMI, 1 Component, 1 PC, 1 USB; N/A	60Hz
	Westinghouse VR-6025Z MSRP: \$1,199* SKU 2047526	CCFL	60 inches	35x56.6x 4.6 inches; 85 pounds	1080p	176 degrees	3 HDMI, 1 Component, 2 Composite, 1 PC; 1 audio output	120Hz
	Insignia NS-42E570A11 MSRP: \$899.99* SKU 9595128	LED (N/A)	42 inches	39.6x24.8x1.9 inches; 32.2 pounds	1080p	N/A	4 HDMI, 2 Component, 1 USB; 2 audio outputs	120Hz
	Samsung UN40D6000SF MSRP: \$1,099* SKU 2126339	LED (N/A)	40 inches	22.9x37.6x 1.2 inches; 24 pounds	1080p	N/A	4 HDMI, 2 Component, 2 USB; 1 audio output	120Hz
	Mitsubishi LT-46164 MSRP: \$2,099* SKU 1037296	LED (edge-lit)	46 inches	29x43.3x 2.9 inches; 51.7 pounds	1080p	N/A	4 HDMI, 2 Component, 1 PC, 1 Ethernet, 2 USB; 3 audio outputs	120Hz
	Sharp LC-70LE732U MSRP: \$3,299.99* SKU 2047632	LED (edge-lit)	70 inches	38.4x63.5x 3.5 inches; 92.6 pounds	1080p	176 degrees	4 HDMI, 1 Component, 2 Composite, 1 Ethernet, 1 PC, 2 USB; 2 audio outputs	120Hz

LED-LCD









See p. 8

*Prices listed in this issue are for general reference and may vary from retailer pricing.
***Unless specified, this is without stand

**Comparing refresh rates between plasma and LCD TVs is like comparing apples to oranges.
For more in-depth information about refresh rates, please ask a sales associate.

Which Plasma TV Is Best For You?

If you're planning to buy a plasma HDTV, it might be hard to decide on one just by looking at a wall of gorgeous sets. Refer to this chart for further help when shopping.

		Size	Dimensions; Weight***	Native resolution	Viewing angle	Inputs	Outputs	Refresh rate**
	What It Means	The diagonal measurement of the TV's screen	Height x width x depth; How much the TV weighs	A fixed TV resolution; images are best displayed in the native resolution	The maximum angle at which the viewer can see the screen clearly	Inputs let you connect your components to your TV	Outputs transfer information from your TV to peripherals, such as audio to speakers	Speed at which a screen is redrawn every second
	Insignia NS-42P650A11 MSRP: \$499.99* SKU 9748831	42 inches	24.9x40.6x2.8 inches; 49.6 pounds	720p	N/A	2 HDMI, 2 Component, 1 Composite	2 audio	600Hz
	Panasonic TC-P42X3 MSRP: \$599.95* SKU 2120043	42 inches	25.1x 40.3x3.7 inches; 60.6 pounds	1080p	N/A	2 HDMI, 1 Component, 1 Composite, 2 USB, 1 Ethernet	1 audio	600Hz
	Samsung PN42C450B1D MSRP: \$599.99* SKU 9791253	42 inches	24.8x40.6x 2.7 inches; 38.6 pounds	720p	N/A	3 HDMI, 2 Component, 1 Composite, 1 PC, 1 USB	1 audio	600Hz
	Insignia NS-50P650A11 MSRP: \$697.99* SKU 9745916	50 inches	31.3x47.4x 2.8 inches; 50.7 pounds	720p	N/A	2 HDMI, 2 Component, 1 Composite	2 audio	600Hz
	Panasonic TC-P46C2 MSRP: \$699.95* SKU 9788853	46 inches	28.5x44.6x3.7 inches; 62.9 pounds	720p	N/A	2 HDMI, 2 Component, 2 Composite	1 audio	600Hz
	Panasonic TC-P42U2 MSRP: \$749.95* SKU 9761059	42 inches	26.1x40.6x3.7 inches; 49.6 pounds	1080p	N/A	3 HDMI, 2 Component, 2 Composite	1 audio	600Hz
	Samsung PN43D490A1D MSRP: \$799.99* SKU 2121834	43 inches	24.5x39.8x2.2 inches; 35.3 pounds	720p	N/A	3 HDMI, 2 Component, 1 PC, 1 USB	1 audio	600Hz
	Samsung PN50C7000YF MSRP: \$1,999.99* SKU 9809723	50 inches	29.5x47.7x1.4 inches; 54 pounds	1080p	N/A	4 HDMI, 2 Component, 1 Composite, 1 PC, 2 USB, 1 Ethernet	1 audio	600Hz

*Prices listed in this issue are for general reference and may vary from retailer pricing.
***Unless specified, this is without stand

**Comparing refresh rates between plasma and LCD TVs is like comparing apples to oranges.
For more in-depth information about refresh rates, please ask a sales associate.

NOTEWORTHY

Accessories & Services

As you head toward the HDTV section of your local consumer electronics store, you'll invariably pass shelves of bland-looking HDTV accessories. There are a handful of accessories that are vital to getting the most from your HDTV. The following is a rundown of the accessories we recommend to complete your home-theater setup.



WALL MOUNTS & BRACKETS

- View your HDTV from the best possible angle
- Adjust your TV's position by tilting it up or down as needed
- Maximize space in your viewing room by hanging up your TV



CLEANING KIT

- Protect your HDTV's screen by using specially formulated sprays and cloths while cleaning it
- Eliminate the danger of scratching delicate screens
- No-drip formulas prevent damage to other home-theater equipment



CORD-CONCEALMENT KIT

- Hide multiple cords while keeping them organized and minimize cord clutter
- Keep the focus on your new HDTV, not the cords connected to it



TV STANDS

- Offer flexibility if you're unable to mount your HDTV on the wall
- Available in a variety of finishes to match any décor
- Provide a place for additional home-theater equipment



HDMI CABLES

- Carry uncompressed digital audio and video signals to and from your HDTV and its components
- Eliminate interference from other components with shielding (found in higher-end cables)



UNIVERSAL REMOTE CONTROL

- Simplify your home-theater setup with one remote that can control all of your components
- Program different functions so that you will be able to watch a movie by pressing just one button, for example
- Easily view options in the dark with a backlit LCD



SURROUND-SOUND SYSTEM

- Maximize your HDTV experience with theater-like audio
- Feel like you're in the movie scene instead of just watching it
- Even out softer and louder programming with an equalizer



SURGE PROTECTORS & POWER CONDITIONERS

- Protect your home theater from potential damage by using a surge protector that will absorb electrical fluctuations
- Filter out "dirty power" (also known as electrical "noise" or radio interference) that can degrade your home theater's audio and video with a power conditioner
- Have peace of mind knowing that your home theater will give you its peak performance for the longest amount of time



HOME-THEATER SERVICES

A home theater is a pretty big investment, so it's wise to consider letting a professional handle your installation and setup. Let your local CE retailer tackle the following tasks, and you'll be able to enjoy the full glory of HD in no time.

- Home Theater In-Home Consultation
- TV Recycling
- TV Calibration
- TV Mounting & Cord Concealment
- Remote Control Programming
- Speaker Setup

Benefits Of Canon's HD CMOS Pro

Professional Inspired Performance

It's easy to assume that a camcorder with the highest number of megapixels will deliver the best HD video quality, but this isn't true. Instead, when it comes to megapixels you should seek quality over quantity. A camcorder that uses fewer megapixels that are significantly larger and more sensitive creates better video. As such, Canon (www.usa.canon.com) created its HD CMOS Pro image sensor technology. It can capture HD video with stunning clarity and enhanced low-light performance, and it's available on select VIXIA camcorders, such as the Canon VIXIA HF M40 (\$699.99).



Canon VIXIA HF M40
\$699.99
SKU: 2088371



Canon VIXIA HF M41
\$799.99
SKU: 2088565



Canon VIXIA HF G10
\$1,499.99
SKU: 2089051

What HD CMOS Pro Delivers

Outstanding Video Resolution

The effective number of pixels in the HD CMOS Pro Image Sensor is exactly equal to 1920 x 1080, the resolution of Full High Definition video. Since there is no need to resize the image captured by the sensor, Full HD video is recorded with exceptionally high resolution.

Superb Low-Light Performance

Because the number of pixels are precisely those needed to capture Full HD video, each pixel is larger and more sensitive to light. This makes it possible to capture high-quality HD video even in dimly lit settings, such as when you attend a friend's live acoustic performance at an open mic night.

Wide Dynamic Range

The larger pixel area lets the HD CMOS Pro image sensor store more light. In turn, this makes it possible for the camcorder to capture a wider range of tones. You will be able to accurately capture shadow detail without "blowing out" the highlight areas.



Compact System Cameras

Small & Powerful

WITH A COMPACT SYSTEM CAMERA, you'll enjoy the benefits of a D-SLR (a big lens that's more routinely capable of high-quality images) and a point-and-shoot camera (a small size that you can always take with you). These small wonders feature a mount where you can attach a variety of swappable lenses.

... attach a variety of swappable lenses.

Why A Compact System Camera?

Active photographers who want consistently great pictures can travel with a small and lightweight camera instead of a bulky D-SLR. Also, the lenses you use with a compact system camera can capture images with greater detail, less distortion, and truer color than a point-and-shoot. In particular, the big lens, in combination with a larger image sensor, will impact the quality of photos taken in low light, where images are more likely to be blurry or off color. And because a compact system camera's lenses are interchangeable, you can select a lens to suit your environment and photography goals. For example, a telephoto zoom lens can snap up-close shots from far away and a wide-angle lens can let you capture more of a scene.

Notable Features

To help prevent photo blur, many compact system cameras feature image stabilization built into the body of the camera. This feature can save you money because you won't need to spend extra for lenses with image stabilization. Photo buffs will enjoy fine control over the detail and color through the use of manual focus and white balance capabilities. Look for features such as face detection, which improves your ability to capture clear family portraits, and multiple-point autofocus, which helps to improve the focus of photos with multiple subjects or moving objects—such as kids playing.

Other Considerations

Compact system camera bodies generally have a smaller hand grip than D-SLRs, which may increase the likelihood of camera shake and image blur. Unlike some point-and-shoot models, a compact system camera with an attached lens can't fit into the average pants pocket.

Point-&-Shoots With Protection

A Durable Camera Can Weather The Elements

IF YOU WANT TO CAPTURE IMAGES in any location no matter the elements, you need a camera that's designed to endure extreme conditions. Durable cameras, such as the Olympus Stylus Tough-3000 (\$199.99; www.olympusamerica.com), are essentially all-weather cameras, because they incorporate features that help the camera withstand harmful temperatures, water, drops, and more. Continue reading to learn more about their capabilities.

An All-Conditions Camera

Many durable cameras are waterproof to a certain depth underwater (usually 10 feet or more). These cameras are perfect for snapping photos when you're playing with your kids at the water park or taking stills of them jumping through a sprinkler. Some durable models are also freeze-proof to a certain temperature, such as 14 degrees, so they're great for taking along on a sledding adventure; a standard point-and-shoot's internal components are unlikely to tolerate bitter temperatures.

It's In The "Proof"

A shockproof durable camera can endure drops of a given distance, generally around 3 to 6 feet. For instance, if your camera falls out of your backpack's side pocket, there should be little to no damage thanks to its shock-absorbing construction. Also, to prevent sand, grit, and other particles from infiltrating and damaging your camera, look for a dust-proof model that has a seamless construction.

See It All

Like other point-and-shoot cameras, a durable model usually features multiple shooting modes, and you can use durable cameras in places you wouldn't dream of taking other point-and-shoots. For example, you can easily snap pictures in the waves with an Underwater shooting mode or push a couple buttons to bring up a Snow mode as you build a snowman with your grandchildren.



D-SLR Cameras For The Masses

Sophisticated, But Not Just For Pros

D-SLR CAMERAS ARE SOPHISTICATED tools that offer the photographer complete control over her images. But don't think that D-SLRs are just for pros and experienced amateurs: Just about any photographer, from pro to neophyte, can use and benefit from these powerful, flexible cameras.

Why A D-SLR?

D-SLRs offer a wealth of features and flexibility. With a D-SLR, you can expect interchangeable lenses and filters for increased flexibility, fast auto-focus, and fast "burst mode" shooting. And if you happen to have a point-and-shoot with a separate viewfinder, you're not looking through the lens, so you're not seeing the exact field of view covered by the camera, nor can you typically preview the depth of field—that is, the area of apparent sharpness in front of and behind the subject—with a point-and-shoot. Perhaps most importantly, the D-SLR's larger size and more sophisticated components allow for the inclusion of a larger sensor, and that means sharper images and better low-light shooting.

Notable Features For Everyone

Although D-SLRs may look complex, anyone can use one. Today's D-SLRs provide Auto shooting modes just like those found on point-and-shoot cameras. This allows you to simply select a type of photo (portrait, landscape, sports, etc.) and push the button; the camera does the rest. Some D-SLRs offer in-camera guides, such as Nikon's D3100 (\$699.95; www.nikonusa.com), to help you learn how to use more advanced camera settings. From parents shooting kids' sports in different venues to hikers capturing panoramic vistas and distant wildlife, a D-SLR combines maximum flexibility with the highest quality images available.

Other Considerations

D-SLRs have some drawbacks, but not many. They generally cost more than a point-and-shoot, and they tend to be bigger and bulkier; they're usually heavy enough to require a separate camera bag—while you can drop most point-and-shoots into a pocket or purse, your D-SLR is best carried in its own bag. (This is especially true when you're using multiple lenses, of course.)

Point-&Shoot Cameras

Big Features, Compact Package

POINT-AND-SHOOT CAMERAS continue to evolve in terms of features and picture quality. Options that were once only available in higher-end cameras are now included in less expensive models. We'll highlight some of the most important features of point-and-shoot cameras to help you decide if it's the right type of camera for you.

Notable Features

Point-and-shoot cameras use one built-in lens, and they often have a wide zoom range. Take for example, the Nikon Coolpix P500 (\$399.95; www.nikon.com), which has a range of 4.0 to 144mm. This lets you capture photos of close-up and faraway subjects. The image detail that can be produced by a point-and-shoot is indicated by its megapixel rating, which can be anywhere from 5MP to as high as 18MP.

Some special features will enhance your photos. For instance, the Canon SX230 HS (\$349.99; www.canon.com) can geotag your photos. This embeds your photo files with the exact GPS coordinates of where they were taken.

Some companies offer extra-durable point-and-shoot models, so you can take your compact camera just about anywhere. For instance, the Olympus Stylus Tough-6020 (\$279.99; www.olympusamerica.com) is shockproof (up to 5 feet), waterproof (16 feet), and even freezeproof (14 degrees).

Why A Point-&Shoot Camera?

These cameras are great for amateur and intermediate photographers alike. They are often budget-friendly but can still take great photos. Point-and-shoot cameras are more compact and weigh less than bulky D-SLRs, which makes them perfect for toting along on a family vacation or stashing in your purse. These cameras also have simple, user-friendly settings, so even if you're a beginner, you can start taking pictures almost immediately.

Other Considerations

To help you quickly snap photos with the best settings, point-and-shoots offer automatic scene modes, such as portrait, landscape, and night mode. If you want to tinker with camera settings so that you have full control over your image results, a D-SLR is probably more suitable.

Camcorders

There's One Out There For You

CAMCORDERS HAVE EVOLVED SIGNIFICANTLY in the past few years. HD (high-definition) video models have edged out earlier, SD (standard-definition) cams. Also, flash memory storage has come to the fore as tape has all but left the stage. And both of these trends have converged in inexpensive, ultra-compact camcorders that fit in a pocket.

Traditional Camcorders

A traditional model has a hand strap and often an LCD screen that can flip around to face the subject. Some of these models offer very high image quality thanks to large image sensors and superior lenses, and HD models often feature HDMI cable outputs for display on an HDTV. Most can snap good-looking still photos, too. Note, however, that traditional camcorders are more fragile and expensive than ultra-compact models.

... HD models often feature HDMI cable outputs for display on an HDTV.

Ultra-Compact Camcorders

This type of camcorder often looks like a rectangular MP3 player or phone with a small lens on the back. These are rugged and pocketable, so you won't be afraid to take them anywhere. Ultra-compact cameras have a limited zoom, such as 4X magnification or less, but some cost less than \$50. Even though an ultra-compact may technically shoot HD video, its inexpensive lens and small image sensor may detract from the quality of the picture.

Which Is Best For You?

New parents should consider an entry-level, traditional HD camcorder. It will faithfully capture their infant's early milestones without cutting into the diaper budget.

As for parents of kids in music, drama, or sports, a more advanced traditional unit is necessary. An HD camcorder with a high optical zoom rating will get close-ups way up on the stage or out on the field.

Finally, teens and outdoor enthusiasts will love the portability, pricing, and resilience of an ultra-compact flash cam. Uploading features for social networking and video sharing sites make this choice a slam dunk.

BY MARTY SEMS

Zoom & Focal Length

The Ins & Outs Of Lenses

OF ALL THE FEATURES on digital cameras and camcorders, the zoom function is one of the easiest to grasp. Focal length isn't necessarily as obvious, but the two are closely related. Understand these features, and you'll be better equipped to make a purchasing decision.

... the zoom function is one of the easiest ...

Focal Length

This is the distance (in millimeters) from the center of a lens to the camera's image sensor. In other words, how long (or short) is the lens? The answer determines the kind of shooting it's made for.

Standard (30mm-50mm).

These lenses most closely match the perspective of your eye, particularly around 50mm. They're good for everyday, candid shots.

Wide-angle (below 30mm).

These broaden your field of view and are ideal for landscapes. The shorter the lens, the wider its view is.

Telephoto (above 50mm). These magnify distant objects, and are perfect for capturing subjects you can't get close to, such as your son as he performs in a play. The longer the lens, the stronger its magnification power.

Zoom

This means a lens has an adjustable focal length. D-SLR cameras often furnish a lens with a useful range from wide-angle to telephoto, such as 18-70mm. This is roughly 3.9X zoom ($70/18 = 3.9$). Because they're so much smaller, point-and-shoot cameras don't use the same standardized focal lengths D-SLRs do, and they can't be directly compared. A point-and-shoot's focal length typically starts at equivalent to about 28 to 35mm. So a point-and-shoot camera with 5X zoom might reach a focal length roughly equal to 135mm or better. Most camcorders don't have changeable lenses, so they often have a more powerful zoom, to cover an even greater range of distances.

There are two types of zooms available:

Optical zoom. This is a true zoom. It relies only on the lens' magnification power.

Digital zoom. Some cameras and camcorders augment optical zoom with a digital enhancement, which uses in-camera processing to crop the image and enlarge it. However, this can degrade image quality, so it's best to base a purchase decision on optical zoom.

3D Cameras & Camcorders

Capture Memories In 3D

3D TECHNOLOGY isn't just for professional productions. In fact, it's readily available to consumers thanks to new gadgets designed to produce quality 3D images and videos. Using the latest photography and videography capabilities, you can create your own 3D multimedia. Keep reading to learn how far you can take 3D digital imaging.

Capture 3D Snapshots

Digital cameras with 3D technology snap photos using methods that mimic the way the human eye sees images: They capture the same scene from slightly different angles using two lenses or by taking a series of photos. The 3D camera merges the images to create a 3D photo illusion. Some 3D still cameras can also record 3D video.

Select cameras feature a 3D LCD monitor, so you can review your photos in 3D as you shoot, without wearing special glasses. You can also enjoy your 3D images on other 3D-compatible devices, such as a 3D TV or computer monitor, or take advantage of the 3D photo print services offered by some camera manufacturers so your friends can admire your 3D snapshots.

Record 3D Video

Camcorders that can record 3D footage use a special attachment with two lenses that can film subjects through a "right-eye" and "left-eye" perspective. This captures two video frames that are then combined to create 3D video. A 3D camcorder is perfect for recording international travel sights, so when you share your adventures in 3D, your family can feel immersed in every location.

In order to view your 3D video recordings, you will need a 3D-compatible monitor or HDTV with 3D glasses, and a high-speed HDMI 1.4 cable to connect the camcorder to your viewing device.

A close-up photograph of a smiling couple taking a selfie. The man is on the right, wearing a red shirt, and the woman is on the left, wearing a yellow top. They are both holding a white smartphone, which is visible in the foreground, showing their faces on the screen.

HD Photos & Video

Make It, View It & Share It

HIGH-DEFINITION is within your reach with today's digital cameras and camcorders. Here's a primer.

HD Video

High-def camcorders shoot widescreen video in HD resolutions such as 720 (1,280 horizontal x 720 vertical pixels) or 1080 (1,920 x 1,080). Their footage has more detail than standard-definition video (640 x 480). Many digital cameras are also able to capture HD video, such as the Nikon Coolpix S4100 (\$179.95; www.nikonusa.com).

You can watch HD video on an HDTV or computer with playback software and a memory card reader or cable. As for sharing, HD video files are often too big to email, but you can upload them to HD video sites such as YouTube. Also, disc-authoring software lets you make BDs (Blu-ray Discs) or discs containing AVCHD (Advanced Video Codec High Definition) files, which are compatible with BD players and easy to mail.

HD Photos

Because 1080 HD video is roughly equivalent to 2 megapixels (million pixels), digital photos have technically been "HD" for nearly a decade now. Today, digital cameras can take pictures at 14MP or more. Most camcorders can also snap HD still images.

High-megapixel images contain much more detail than smaller pics, so they're perfect for enlarging excerpts or printing on poster-sized paper. But, high-megapixel photos are also large files. Emailing one may clog someone's inbox or require her to scroll to see the whole pic. Therefore, you may want to reduce your camera's image quality settings to a smaller picture size. You can also use photo-editing software to shrink your high-res images to a size that fits on most computer screens, such as 1,280 x 1,024 pixels. If you use a slideshow or media center program to view photos, you may not have to shrink pics to make them fit. Like most HDTVs, many of these apps automatically resize photos to fit the screen.

Memory Cards

Multiple Factors Affect Performance

FOR ALL THE TIME WE SPEND mulling over which digital imaging device we want to buy, we should spend a commensurate amount of time considering the types of memory cards to use with them. Not all memory cards are created equal; the differences in capacity, read/write speed, and class all have a bearing on what they can do and, therefore, which one you'll want for your particular device and needs.

Class

Although a given memory card's speed rating tells you something about how well it should perform, the class rating is also very important, as that specification tells you the minimum sustained read/write speed of SD and SDHC cards. Different cards with the same class rating may have higher or lower *maximum* speed ratings than one another, but their minimum speeds should be the same. Currently, memory cards come in Class 2 (2MBps), 4 (4MBps), 6 (6MBps), and 10 (10MBps).

Speed Ratings

The speed rating of a given memory card, expressed in MBps (megabytes per second), tells you its maximum read/write speed. The higher the number, the better. A card's speed affects several performance factors, including shot-to-shot lag and how quickly you can transfer files on the card to a computer.

Capacity

Although the storage capacity of a card isn't as important to performance as class and speed rating, it's still a key consideration when choosing a memory card. It's particularly important for those with heavy-duty data demands, such as videographers and photographers shooting in HD (or even 3D).

While those folks will want a Class 10 card for the best possible performance, they'll also need a card with a substantial amount of storage capacity so they can shoot away without worrying about swapping out a full card for a new one every few minutes.

Photo Printers

Get Beautiful Prints At Home

MOST OF US HAVE HUNDREDS OR EVEN THOUSANDS of digital photos on our computers. Sometimes you need a physical print, however, such as when you're framing pictures of your children to line the hallway.

You can use a local or online photo printing service, but nothing gives you quicker results and more control over the final look than a photo inkjet printer. Many support borderless printing on precut photo paper, so their output looks and feels just like a professional print. And some models offer additional ink colors that can reproduce the warmth and vitality of people's faces.

Printing Without A PC

If your computer is cantankerous or has a full hard drive, you might welcome the chance to leave it out of your photo-printing experience entirely. Most photo printers can print images directly off of a camera with a connection such as a USB cable (via PictBridge technology) or a Bluetooth wireless connection. Most also feature slots for different types of camera flash memory cards.

PC-less photo printers have small, color displays so you can choose the pics you want to print. Some even support editing such as cropping and red-eye removal.

Connectivity

There isn't always room for a new photo printer in your favorite computing spot. If you're short on space, look for a model with Wi-Fi or Ethernet support. That way, you can put the printer where it's convenient and connect to it through your home network.

Productivity

Many photo printers double as general-purpose models for printing documents, too. Some go further with all-in-one features such as scanning, copying, and faxing. These can be highly useful if you run a side business out of your home, for instance.

Portability

A small photo printer you can bring along to family gatherings certainly beats the old picture exchange method of uploading your photos, sending links to family members, buying prints of each other's pics online, and waiting for them to arrive in the mail.



Prepare To Share Your Media

Enhance & Organize With Photo & Video Editors

WHETHER DOCUMENTING HISTORY, creating art, or telling a story, photos and videos are meant for sharing. And they could often use some organization and sprucing up first. That's where photo- and video-editing software comes in. The following are ways programs can help organize, edit, and share media.

... organize, edit, and
share media.

Organize

One family reunion can result in adding hundreds of cryptically named files to an already huge digital library. Without the means to manage those files, finding a specific photo among thousands can be maddening. Certain editing programs help by letting you preview shots, including as thumbnails, and by applying tags, names, ratings, and other designators to make searches quicker and easier. Programs also typically allow for sorting files by date and creating folders and albums.

Edit

Few photos/videos are captured perfectly. Beyond providing enhancement tools, some programs make applying them an automatic or drag-and-drop affair. Photo editors typically provide basic white balance, color correction, cropping, and resizing tools and possibly advanced panoramic, 3D, object removal, and other tools. Video editors generally provide basic snipping and stabilization tools, plus options for adding audio, voiceovers, effects, and DVD menus. Advanced tools can include green screen and animation abilities. A father, for example, could document his son's first trip to the zoo via a movie with sweeping transitions and sentimental background audio.

Share

To make sharing creations simple, look for photo and video editors with email integration and options to upload files to social networks and sharing Web sites. Many programs also include tools to create calendars, greeting cards, online slideshows and albums, brochures, and other creative sharing options. Further, many programs help create CDs or DVDs and can export files for viewing on portable media players and smartphones. Thus, a recently retired couple can share visuals of their cross-country trip with family via a social networking site.

Lowepro Tahoe 10 & Tahoe 30 Pouches

Organize, Protect & Carry Your Gear

Lowepro's Tahoe cases are smart accessories for storing a point-and-shoot camera, thanks to their impact-resistant materials, water-resistant nylon, and soft interior lining. Available exclusively at Best Buy, the new slim Tahoe pouches come in two sizes and three vibrant colors: Tahoe 10 (\$9.99; www.lowepro.com) and Tahoe 30 (\$10.99) in red, black, and blue.

Protect Your Investment

Storing your digital imaging investment in a quality case will protect it from outside elements or physical damage and guard the camera's fragile LCD screen against abrasion. The Tahoe 10 and 30 are both made of sturdy nylon that's reinforced with PE board to provide durable yet lightweight protection, while the brushed tricot interior lining safeguards your device from scratches. The two size options will fit a wide array of camera models, and both the Tahoe 10 and 30 feature a built-in belt loop so you can conveniently attach the case at the waist. Plus, the zippered front pockets keep your backup batteries or extra memory cards handy, so you'll have a spare on hand if the basketball game goes into overtime or your granddaughter's graduation party offers even more photo-worthy moments than expected.

Lowepro Tahoe 10 & 30 Pouches
\$9.99 and \$10.99, respectively
www.lowepro.com



Choose The Tahoe Case That Fits Your Camera

		10	30
		■ SKU 2054031 ■ SKU 2054086 ■ SKU 2055085	■ SKU 2155224 ■ SKU 2066424 ■ SKU 2053606
Canon	PowerShot A3100 IS, A495, SD1300 IS, SD1400 IS; Elph 100HS, 300HS PowerShot SX210 IS, a2200, SX-230HS	✓	✓
CASIO	EX Z35	✓	
FUJIFILM	FinePix XP10, Z70, Z90 FinePix XP20, JX310	✓	✓
Kodak	Easyshare C182, M341, M530, M550	✓	
Nikon	Coolpix L110, L22, S3000, S6000, S70, S8000, S3000, S4100 Coolpix S9100, L24, S6100	✓	✓
OLYMPUS	FE 4030, Stylus Tough 8010 Stylus Tough 6020	✓	✓
Panasonic	DMC ZS5K, DMC ZS7		✓
SAMSUNG	TL105, TL205, SH100 Touch Wifi, PL210 Long Zoom, ST700 Dual View, PL110 Dual View ST65	✓	✓
SONY	DSC H55, DSC H70, HX9- H-16x CMOS DSC HX1, DSC HX5V, DSC S2100, DSC TX1, DSC W560, DSC W530, TX100- CMOS T DSC W310, DSC W330, DSC W350, DSC W370, DSC W570, DSC WX9, CCD-T	✓ ✓	✓

Which Point-&-Shoot Camera Is Best For You?

If you're a little confused about the most important features in a digital camera, you're not alone. In this chart, we compare features from select digital cameras, and we also explain what these features mean.

		Resolution; Optical zoom	Shutter speed	Memory card	LCD size	Battery life	ISO	Movie mode
	What It Means	More pixels mean bigger and clearer prints; Moves the lens closer to your subject	A faster shutter speed will let you snap action photos without blur	Removable card that stores your photos in your camera	The LCD is the screen on the back of the camera	Based on how many shots you can take on a single charge	A higher ISO lets you take better photos in low-light settings	Lets you record short video clips on your digital camera
	Casio Exilim EX-ZS10 MSRP: \$119.99* SKU 2134037	14.1MP; 5X	1/2 to 1/2,000 second	SD/SDHC/SDXC	2.7 inches	N/A	Auto; Manual: 64 to 1600	Yes
	Olympus FE-4030 MSRP: \$129.99* SKU 9765198	14MP; 4X	1/4 to 1/2,000 second	SD/SDHC	2.7 inches	N/A	Auto; Manual: 64 to 1600	Yes
	Samsung ST65 MSRP: \$129.99* SKU 1961035	14.2MP; 5X	1/8 to 1/2,000 second	microSD/microSDHC	2.7 inches	N/A	Auto; Manual: 80 to 3200	Yes
	Fujifilm FinePix JX250 MSRP: \$139.95* SKU 9788971	14MP; 5X	1/4 to 1/1,400 second	SD/SDHC	2.7 inches	N/A	Auto; Manual: 100 to 3200	Yes
	Sony Cyber-shot W560 MSRP: \$159.99* SKU 1978065	14.1MP; 4X	2 to 1/1,600 seconds	Memory Stick Duo/PRO Duo/PRO HG-Duo/SD/SDHC/SDXC	3 inches	230 shots	Auto; Manual: 80 to 3200	Yes
	Nikon Coolpix S6100 MSRP: \$199.95* SKU 1978038	16MP; 7X	1 to 1/2,000 second	SD/SDHC/SDXC	3 inches	210 shots	Auto; Manual: 80 to 3200	Yes
	Nikon Coolpix S9100 MSRP: \$329.95* SKU 1977039	12.1MP; 18X	1 to 1/2,000 second	SD/SDHC/SDXC	3 inches	270 shots	Auto; Manual: 160 to 3200	Yes
	Canon PowerShot SD4500 IS MSRP: \$349.99* SKU 1218465	10MP; 10X	1 to 1/4,000 second	SD/SDHC/SDXC/MMC/MMC Plus/HC MMC Plus	3 inches	150 shots	Auto; Manual: 125 to 3200	Yes

*Prices listed in this issue are for general reference and may vary from retailer pricing.

Which D-SLR Is Best For You?

As D-SLR prices keep coming down, more photographers are turning to them, both as a first camera and as a trade-up to something better. In this chart, we'll help you sort through some of the features and performance specs of select D-SLR cameras.

		Resolution	LCD size	ISO range	Kit lens	Burst speed	Shutter speed	
What It Means		Image sensor in megapixels; more means a bigger image	Diagonal measurement of the screen on the back of the camera	A higher ISO range will let you take better photos in low-light situations	Standard lens bundled with the camera body	Frames per second (fps) you can shoot while in burst mode	The wider the range, the greater the gamut of long exposures to frozen action	
Compact Interchangeable Lens		Olympus PEN E-PL1 MSRP: \$499.99* SKU 9769158	12.3MP	2.7 inches	200 to 3200	14-42mm f/3.5-5.6	3fps	60 to 1/2,000 seconds
		Samsung NX100 MSRP: \$599.99* SKU 1551148	14.6MP	3 inches	100 to 6400	50-200mm	3fps	30 to 1/4,000 seconds
		Sony NEX-3 MSRP: \$599.99* SKU 1599022	14.2MP	3 inches	200 to 12800	18-55mm f/3.5-5.6	7fps	30 to 1/4,000 seconds
		Canon EOS Rebel T3 MSRP: \$599.99* SKU 1980124	12MP	2.7 inches	100 to 6400	18-55mm f/3.5-5.6	3fps	30 to 1/4,000 seconds
		Pentax K-r MSRP: \$749.95* SKU 1627099	12.4MP	3 inches	100 to 12800	18-55mm	6fps	30 to 1/6,000 seconds
		Sony A55 MSRP: \$849.99* SKU 1598997	16.2MP	3 inches	100 to 12800	18-55mm f/3.5-5.6	10fps	30 to 1/4,000 seconds
		Canon EOS Rebel T3i MSRP: \$899.99* SKU 1987075	18MP	3 inches	100 to 6400	18-55mm f/3.5-5.6	3.7fps	30 to 1/4,000 seconds
		Nikon D7000 MSRP: \$1,499.95* SKU 1230707	16.2MP	3 inches	100 to 6400	18-105mm f/3.5-5.6	6fps	30 to 1/8,000 seconds

*Prices listed in this issue are for general reference and may vary from retailer pricing.

Which Digital Camcorder Is Best For You?

Digital camcorders come in a number of formats: DVD, hard drive, flash drive, MiniDV, and high definition are the most common. By comparing the following digital camcorders, you can determine which recording format and product best fits your style.

		LCD size	Optical zoom; Digital zoom	Recording speeds	Memory card	Digital still resolution	Lines of resolution
	What It Means	Diagonal length of viewing screen	Two methods for magnifying depth of field; optical zoom is better	The speeds a particular camcorder can utilize during recording	Compatible flash card types (cards not included unless noted)	The number of megapixels the camcorder can capture in still images	Number of lines of horizontal resolution; the higher the num- ber, the greater the detail
Flash Drive	 Sony Handycam DCR-SX85 MSRP: \$279.99* SKU 2009041	3 inches	60X; 2,000X	HQ/SP/LP	SD/SDHC/ SDXC/Memory Stick PRO Duo	N/A	480
	 Canon FS31 MSRP: \$329.99* SKU 9739449	2.7 inches	37X; 2,000X	XP/SP/LP	SD/SDHC	0.45MP	480
	 Insignia NS-DV720PBL2 MSRP: \$129.99* SKU 1150586	3 inches	N/A; 3X	N/A	SD/SDHC	5MP	720
	 Panasonic HDC-TM80K MSRP: \$499.99* SKU 2009315	2.7 inches	34X; 90X	HA/HG/HX/HE	SD/SDHC/ SDXC	3MP	1,080
	 Canon VIXIA HF M40 MSRP: \$699.99* SKU 2088371	3 inches	10X; 200X	MPX/XP/XP+/ SP/LP	SD/SDHC/ SDXC	2.07MP	1,080
	 Samsung HMX-S10BN MSRP: \$749.99* SKU 1021531	3.5 inches	15X; 180X	N/A	SD/SDHC	5MP	1,080
Hard Drive	 Sony HDR-XR150 MSRP: \$549.99* SKU 9746014	2.7 inches	25X; 300X	FX/FH/HQ/LP	SD/SDHC/ SDXC/Memory Stick PRO Duo	3MP	1,080
	 Panasonic SDR-H85S MSRP: \$299.99* SKU 9771031	2.7 inches	70X; 3,500X	XP/SP/LP/LXP/ LSP/LLP	SD/SDHC/ SDXC	0.3MP	480








See p. 20

*Prices listed in this issue are for general reference and may vary from retailer pricing.

Find The Nikon COOLPIX That Fits Your Life

Nikon's COOLPIX cameras won't let you miss the joy in life, thanks to their fast start-up time, zoom capability, and low-light performance. Each offers an ultra-compact and stylish design that will deliver sharp and colorful photo results with its NIKKOR lens. With a wide range of models available, it couldn't be easier to find a camera that can keep up with your photography needs. In addition to the cameras on this page, be sure to check out the Nikon COOLPIX S6100, S80, P300, P7000, and S1100pj models that are available at Bestbuy.com.



Product Name SKU	Nikon COOLPIX L24 1987084	Nikon COOLPIX S3100 1977048	Nikon COOLPIX S4100 2044468	Nikon COOLPIX L120 2049039	Nikon COOLPIX S8100 1222844	Nikon COOLPIX S9100 1977039	Nikon COOLPIX P500 1978047
							
Additional Colors Available	■ Black ■ Silver	■ Black ■ Red ■ Purple ■ Blue ■ Pink ■ Yellow	■ Red ■ Black ■ Silver		■ Red ■ Gold	■ Red ■ Silver	
MSRP*	\$119.95	\$139.95	\$179.95	\$279.95	\$299.95	\$329.95	\$399.95
Resolution	14MP	14MP	14MP	14.1MP	12.1MP	12.1MP	12.1MP
Zoom	3.6X optical; 4X digital	5X optical; 4X digital	5X optical; 4X digital	21X optical; 4X digital	10X optical; 4X digital	18X optical; 4X digital	36X optical; 4X digital
LCD Monitor	3 inches	2.7 inches	3 inches	3 inches	3 inches	3 inches	3 inches
Internal Memory & Compatible Cards	17MB & SD/ SDHC/SDXC	45MB & SD/ SDHC/SDXC	20MB & SD/ SDHC/SDXC	102MB & SD/ SDHC/SDXC	102MB & SD/ SDHC/SDXC	74MB & SD/ SDHC/SDXC	102MB & SD/ SDHC/SDXC
ISO	Up to 1600	Up to 3200	Up to 3200	Up to 6400	Up to 3200	Up to 3200	Up to 3200
Shooting Modes	16 Scene Modes, plus Auto	19 Scene Modes, plus Auto	20 Scene Modes, plus Auto	17 Scene Modes, plus Auto	6 Scene Auto Selector Modes, 17 Scene Modes, plus Auto	19 Scene Modes, plus Auto	19 Scene Modes, plus Auto
Movie Mode	Yes	Yes (720p HD)	Yes (720p HD)	Yes (720p HD)	Yes (1080p HD)	Yes (1080p HD)	Yes (1080p HD)
Touch-Panel Control	No	No	Yes	No	No	No	No
Battery Type	AA	Li-Ion rechargeable battery	Li-Ion rechargeable battery	AA	Li-Ion rechargeable battery	Li-Ion rechargeable battery	Li-Ion rechargeable battery
Battery Life	220 shots alkaline, 700 shots lithium	220 shots	190 shots	330 shots alkaline, 890 shots lithium	210 shots	270 shots	220 shots

* Prices listed in this issue are for general reference and may vary from retailer pricing.

FirstGlimpse

Expand Your Creativity With A Nikon D-SLR

As you step up to a D-SLR from a point-and-shoot, new opportunities for expanding the creativity in your photos accompany higher image quality and faster shutter response. Nikon's D-SLRs are easy to use, with a host of features to help you achieve outstanding images, including in-camera editing. Whether you're new to D-SLR picture-taking or ready to upgrade your current D-SLR, Nikon has a camera to exceed expectations.



Product Name SKU	Nikon D3000 Kit 9456803	Nikon D3100 Kit 1222817	Nikon D90 Kit 8975184	Nikon D7000 Kit 1230707	Nikon D300S Body 9457349	Nikon D700 Body 8928985
						
Estimated Street Price*	\$499.95	\$699.95	\$1,199.95	\$1,499.95	\$1,699.95	\$2,699.95
Compatible Lenses (for all functions)†	AF-S or AF-I lenses	AF-S or AF-I lenses	AF NIKKOR lenses	AF NIKKOR lenses	AF NIKKOR lenses	AF NIKKOR lenses
Included Lenses	18-55mm NIKKOR VR lens	18-55mm NIKKOR VR lens	18-105mm NIKKOR VR lens	18-105mm NIKKOR VR lens	Available separately	Available separately
LCD Monitor	3 inches, 230K-dot resolution	3 inches, 230K-dot resolution	3 inches, 921K-dot resolution	3 inches, 921K-dot resolution	3 inches, 921K-dot resolution	3 inches, 921K-dot resolution
Image Sensor	10.2MP CCD	14.2MP CMOS	12.3MP CMOS	16.2MP CMOS	12.3MP CMOS	12.1MP CMOS
Low-Noise ISO Sensitivity	100 to 1600 (expandable)	100 to 3200 (expandable)	200 to 3200 (expandable)	100 to 6400 (expandable)	200 to 3200 (expandable)	200 to 6400 (expandable)
Shutter Speed	30 to 1/4,000 sec.	30 to 1/4,000 sec.	30 to 1/4,000 sec.	30 to 1/8,000 sec.	30 to 1/8,000 sec.	30 to 1/8,000 sec.
Built-in Flash	Yes (auto or user-activated)	Yes (auto or user-activated)	Yes (auto or user-activated)	Yes (auto or user-activated)	Yes (user-activated)	Yes (user-activated)
Burst Mode	Up to 3fps	Up to 3fps	Up to 4.5fps	Up to 6fps	Up to 7fps	Up to 5fps
Picture Control Settings	Standard, Neutral, Vivid, Monochrome, Portrait, Landscape; Modified Picture Control can be stored.	Standard, Neutral, Vivid, Monochrome, Portrait, Landscape; Modified Picture Control can be stored.	Standard, Neutral, Vivid, Monochrome, Landscape, Portrait, and nine custom Picture Controls	Standard, Neutral, Vivid, Monochrome, Landscape, Portrait, and nine custom Picture Controls	Standard, Neutral, Vivid, Monochrome, Landscape, Portrait, and nine custom Picture Controls	Standard, Neutral, Vivid, Monochrome, Landscape, Portrait, and nine custom Picture Controls
In-Camera Editing Features	13 Functions: Trim, Soft Filter, and more	17 Functions: Filter Effects, Edit Movie, and more	13 Functions: Trim, D-Lighting, and more	18 Functions: Trim, Straighten, and more	10 Functions: Trim, Filter Effects, and more	7 Functions: Trim, D-Lighting, and more
HD Movie Mode	(Only Stop-Motion Movie)	Yes with sound	Yes with sound	Yes with sound	Yes with sound and Stereo Mic	No
Compatible Storage Media	SD, SDHC	SD, SDHC, SDXC	SD, SDHC	SD, SDHC, SDXC	CompactFlash I/II; SD and SDHC	CompactFlash Type I
Included Battery; Shots Per Charge	Li-Ion Rechargeable Battery; 500 (CIPA)	Li-Ion Rechargeable Battery; 550 (CIPA)	Li-Ion Rechargeable Battery; 850 (CIPA)	Li-Ion Rechargeable Battery; 1,050 (CIPA)	Li-Ion Rechargeable Battery; 950 (CIPA)	Li-Ion Rechargeable Battery; 1,000 (CIPA)

* Prices listed in this issue are for general reference and may vary from retailer pricing.

† For complete compatibility see www.nikonusa.com.



Digital Imaging Glossary

Wondering what all of that lingo on camera boxes means? Use this glossary to help decode the world of digital imaging.

aperture—An iris-like diaphragm opening that can expand and contract the lens to let you control the amount of light that passes through it, thus affecting the exposure. The term “f-stop” can be used interchangeably with aperture.

burst mode—A camera mode that will let you capture several shots consecutively after pressing the shutter only one time.

CCD—A charge-coupled device is a type of image-sensing component. It converts light into energy that can be stored as digital data on your camera.

depth of field—The area that is in focus in front of and beyond the subject of your photo.

digital zoom—Magnifies an image digitally by cropping it and filling in the rest with interpolated pixels, thus degrading the quality. Even if the numbers are impressive, never choose a camera based on digital zoom.

f-stop—See aperture. Smaller f-stop numbers mean a wider lens opening; larger f-stop numbers mean a narrower lens opening.

ISO—For digital cameras, the ISO setting measures the sensitivity to light (similar to how it does with film). Digital camera ISO settings, such as 200, 400, and up, should capture photos as if one were using film with such a speed. Lower ISO settings mean you need more light and vice versa.

LCD—The screen on the back of the camera that lets you see a live-action view of your subject or your photo after you’ve taken it.

lens—The apparatus on the front of the camera that gathers and directs light toward the image sensor. In a digital camera, the lens likely has both an optical and digital zoom.

megapixel—Approximately 1 million pixels. The higher the megapixel count, the higher the resolution and the more you can crop, which means (in general) better-quality photos.

memory card—Because digital cameras have very little onboard memory, they need flash memory cards to store more than a dozen or so images. The type of memory card you need depends on the make and model of your camera. Some of the most popular memory cards are Secure Digital, MultiMedia Card, Compact Flash, and Sony Memory Sticks. In general, memory cards are quite small.

noise—The small statistical variations among pixels that lead to (usually) minor distortions of color in a photo.

optical zoom—The camera’s mechanical ability to move the lens physically closer to your subject. With optical zoom, the higher the number (such as 5X or 10X), the better. When choosing a camera, always consider the optical zoom, not the digital zoom. Digital zoom artificially adds pixels.

resolution—The number of pixels in an image. The higher the resolution, the more detail and quality in a photo. Resolution is measured in a proportion (such as 2,272 x 1,704).

shutter—A mechanism that opens and closes to allow light to pass through the lens. You can usually control the camera’s shutter speed.

shutter speed—The length of time a camera’s shutter is open to let light through the lens and hit the sensor, which records the image. This is expressed in fractions of a second: For instance, a shutter speed of 1/250 means that the shutter is open for 1/250th of a second.

viewfinder—The small opening in the camera that the user looks through to frame a shot. Some digital cameras don’t have a viewfinder and only use the camera’s LCD to frame the shot.

white balance—Light levels are adjusted electronically to ensure whites in a certain environment are pure, leading to more life-like colors. White balance can usually be manually adjusted, too.

NOTEWORTHY

Accessories & Services

Prices for digital camcorders and cameras continue to fall as their video and picture quality improves, which is especially good news for first-time buyers or those looking to upgrade. Pairing your new camcorder or camera with the right products will bring you better photography results. Here are some must-have accessories you should consider buying to get the most out of your digital imaging device.



UV FILTER

- Protects digital camcorder and D-SLR lenses from dust, dirt, fingerprints, and scratches
- Helps you get clearer, more detailed results when you're shooting in bright conditions



ADDITIONAL LENSES & CONVERTER LENSES

- Extra lenses for D-SLRs and converter lenses for digital camcorders can enhance your results by extending your field of view, reducing glare, adding 3D, and more
- Telephoto lenses enable you to zoom in from far away, wide-angle lenses give you the ability to get a full view even if you're close to the subject, and macro lenses will let you achieve up-close, detailed shots of your photo subject



MEMORY CARDS

- Keep spare memory cards on hand so you can snap away without having to worry about running out of storage space
- Consider having several memory cards with smaller capacities instead of one card with a larger capacity; that way, if something goes wrong with one card, you'll still have a backup
- For your digital camcorder, keep more recording media in your bag than you think you'll need, just in case



EXTERNAL FLASH

- Light up your subjects from greater distances
- Offers better control of lighting conditions when taking photos by directing the angle of the flash



SPARE BATTERIES & CHARGERS

- Make sure you're never caught without the power needed to capture the perfect moment
- Whether your camera uses proprietary batteries or AAs, keep at least one fully charged spare or set in your camera bag
- An additional battery charger will give you the flexibility to power up your camera batteries anywhere you're headed, even if you're traveling



REMOTE SWITCH

- A longer cable lets you snap photos without having to touch the camera, which can also reduce camera shake
- May enable the user to lock the shutter for longer exposure times



DIGITAL IMAGING SERVICES

Once you've set your sights on the camera or camcorder you want, consider taking advantage of the digital imaging services offered by your local CE retailer. Not only can you protect your investment, but you can also discover photography and videography skills that will make your photos and videos picture-perfect.

- D-SLR or Camcorder Service Plan
- D-SLR Training Course
- Camcorder Training Course



TRIPOD

- Tripods are an easy way to ensure steady video footage
- Pan while recording video in one smooth motion
- Use a tripod and your camera's timer to get a picture of the entire group without needing someone to man the camera
- Keeps your camera steady while you're shooting close-up or distance shots, which can prevent photo blurring

Inkjet Printers Up To Office Tasks

Canon PIXMA MX882 & MX410 All-In-One Inkjets

A printer that can adeptly handle multiple tasks is essential in any home or office. From printing and copying to scanning and faxing, the Canon PIXMA MX882 and MX410 (\$199.99 and \$99.99, respectively; www.usa.canon.com) have your needs covered.



Canon PIXMA MX882
MSRP: \$199.99

Let the MX882 lend you a hand with complex fax, scan, or copy jobs. It can auto duplex up to 35 double-sided sheets at a time, so you won't waste time or paper feeding individual sheets. Other features, such as fax speed-dial support for up to 100 numbers and a memory card reader, help you make short work of frequent tasks. Elsewhere, the MX882 produces high-resolution (9,600 dpi) photos and boasts 4x6 photo printing in approximately 20 seconds and the ability to print still frames from HD movie clips captured with a compatible Canon EOS Digital SLR or PowerShot camera.

Essential Specs

- 35-sheet automatic duplexing document feeder
- Wi-Fi 802.11b/g/n and Ethernet networking support
- Super G3 color fax with 250-page reception buffer
- 9,600 x 2,400 dpi printing with 1-picoliter droplet size
- 2,400 x 4,800 dpi optical scanning
- Full HD Movie Print
- 3-inch LCD



Canon PIXMA MX410
MSRP: \$99.99

The MX410 is versatile and simple to use. It features built-in Wi-Fi, so anyone can print documents anywhere within the wireless network it's connected to. The built-in Wi-Fi can also be used to print from compatible mobile devices, such as smartphones. Thanks to features such as a 30-sheet automatic document feeder, quick startup, and Auto Scan mode, which automatically recognizes and saves scanned documents in the appropriate format, completing home or office tasks is straightforward and fast. Adding to its ease of use, the MX410's LCD panel is built into the lid, so you can easily access it even when scanning or copying oversized items.

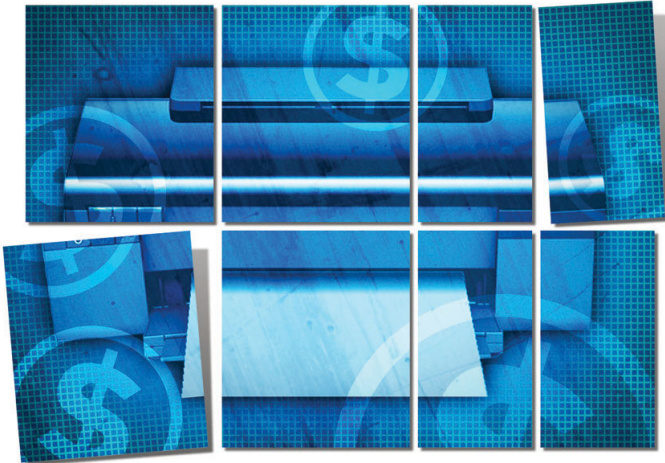
Essential Specs

- 30-sheet auto document feeder
- Wi-Fi 802.11b/g/n
- Super G3 fax with 20 stored speed-dial numbers and a 50-page reception buffer
- 4,800 x 1,200 dpi printing with 2-picoliter droplet size
- 1,200 x 2,400 dpi optical scanning
- Full HD Movie Print
- Full dot matrix LCD

HOW TO BUY

A Printer

The Proof Is In The Printing



Today's printers have moved beyond simply printing black-and-white or color documents. Now they offer a host of features to cater to different home and small business needs. To help you find a printer that best fits your situation, here's a look at some notable specifications and their benefits.

All-in-one vs. print-only. As you start narrowing down your printer options, you'll find printers can be split into two types: all-in-one or print-only. While they're a little more expensive than their print-only counterparts, all-in-one printers offer more in terms of capabilities, such as faxing, scanning, and copying documents. These models are ideal for anyone who needs more bells and whistles to complete projects, such as small business owners or students.

Laser vs. inkjet. All-in-one or print-only models use either laser or inkjet technology to print your documents. Laser printers are often more expensive than inkjet printers, and they're best suited for those who need to print a large volume of basic documents that have text and/or line graphics. On the other hand, inkjets are ideal for home users who want to create documents that might include color and lab-quality photos.

Print photos. If you would like to print your own photos at home, look for a printer that has photo capabilities. While there are printers dedicated solely to photos, some all-in-one and print-only models can create lab-quality photo prints in addition to documents. For added convenience, look for a printer that lets you print photos directly from your camera using a USB cable or memory card.

For added convenience, look for a printer that lets you print photos directly from your camera . . .

Wireless capabilities. Many printers are Wi-Fi enabled, so they can be added to a wireless home network. Wireless printers are great for multi-computer households because family members can print from anywhere using a laptop, netbook, or desktop connected to the network. Some Wi-Fi models offer computerless printing, as well, so you can print documents or photos from smartphones or other portable devices.

. . . print from anywhere using a laptop, netbook, or desktop connected to the network.

The Mobile Broadband Advantage

A Look At 3G & 4G

You probably already know what broadband is—it's a high-speed Internet connection that can be piped into your home by a cable TV, satellite TV, or telephone provider. Whereas broadband in your home comes from one of these providers, mobile broadband—which you may know as 3G or 4G—is available from mobile service providers.

Mobile broadband is available on mobile devices such as smartphones, with a USB dongle plugged into your laptop or netbook, or through laptops and netbooks with embedded broadband technology.

Embedded Mobile Broadband

While Wi-Fi capabilities come standard on almost any laptop or netbook you buy today, and as useful as Wi-Fi is, your Internet access is limited to the availability of a hotspot. Many laptops and netbooks now have embedded mobile broadband capabilities that let you access 3G or 4G networks. Effectively, this grants you access to high-speed Internet in more areas than ever before.

Whether you're at home, in the library, or at the park, and you're within a 3G or 4G service area, you'll have access to high-speed Internet from a laptop or netbook with embedded mobile broadband technology. And because 3G and 4G coverage is built on the same infrastructure as cell phone towers, it's likely you can maintain that access even if you're moving; in other words, if you're in the passenger seat on a long car trip, you can still check your email, browse the Web, and even watch videos.

... this grants you access to high-speed Internet in more areas than ever before.



3G vs. 4G

The primary differentiator between 3G and 4G is that although the latter is much faster, the former is currently more widely available. Nationwide, 3G coverage is fairly comprehensive by now, whereas 4G is currently available in major metropolitan areas and continues to gain ground. As the names suggest (the "G" stands for "generation"), 3G networks will eventually be replaced by 4G.

In due time, 4G access will be available in as many areas as 3G is now, granting even faster Internet access all across the country to anyone with a laptop or netbook that's equipped with mobile broadband technology.



Connectivity At Your Fingertips

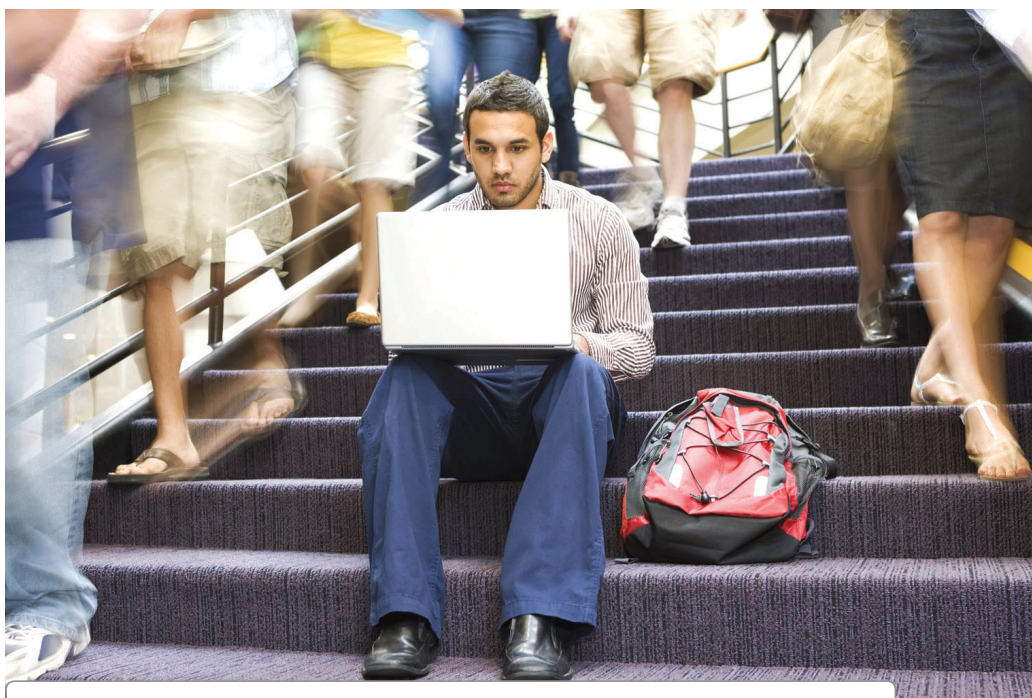
Best Buy Connect Mobile Broadband Service

Wouldn't it be nice to connect to the Internet practically from anywhere? You could check your email, browse Web sites, and download files at your leisure. Offering personalized and flexible plans as well as support, Best Buy Connect (www.bestbuy.com/bestbuyconnect) is a mobile broadband service that makes staying connected easy. With a laptop or netbook with embedded broadband, a subscription to Best Buy Connect gives you reliable 3G or 4G mobile broadband access to the Internet, an online usage tracker and email notifications that help you prevent data overage charges, and one phone number for Customer Care support.

Coverage & Benefits

Covering 283 million people (which is 91% of the current U.S. population of 310 million people), Best Buy Connect offers 3G and 4G plans via the Nationwide **Sprint™** 3G Network and **Clearwire™** 4G Network in more than 70 major markets, respectively.

Aside from fast and easy on-the-go Web access, Best Buy Connect has other added benefits. For instance, when you purchase a laptop or netbook at Best Buy and pair it with a Best Buy Connect plan, you will receive a savings of up to \$275. Additionally, Best Buy Reward Zone members can earn points for dollars spent on their Best Buy Connect monthly service fees.



Choose A Best Buy Connect Plan To Meet Your Needs

	Data Limit	Monthly Cost	Types Of Contracts Available	Overage Fees Per Minute	Laptop Savings
3G	5GB	\$59.99	• Two-year • One-year • Month-to-month	\$0.05	• \$275 off with a two-year plan • \$100 off with a one-year plan
	500MB	\$39.99	• Two-year • One-year • Month-to-month	\$0.10	—
	250MB	\$19.99	• Month-to-month	\$0.10	—
	100MB	Free	—	\$0.15	—
4G	Unlimited data	\$45	• Two-year • Month-to-month	None	• \$150 off with a two-year plan

Tablet vs. Netbook vs. Laptop

The Choice Is Yours

Although tablets, netbooks, and laptops share a lot of the same capabilities, they are not interchangeable. Read on to determine which device best suits your lifestyle.

Tablets



- Deliver access to your favorite services, social media, and Web-based music and movies in a convenient mobile form factor
- Typically feature a 7- to 10-inch touchscreen interface ideal for casual gaming and short communications via an on-screen keyboard
- Commonly support apps that let you add functionality, games, and widgets
- Good for reading ebooks
- Battery life varies based on wireless capabilities and screen technology
- Some utilize smartphone operating systems, such as Android and iOS (iPhone)
- Integrated Wi-Fi; some have 3G service for anywhere connectivity
- Storage is typically limited to 64GB or less

Netbooks



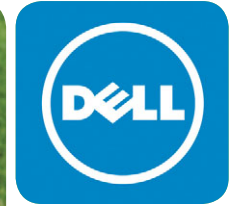
- Small form factor, lightweight, and clamshell design perfect for road warriors; great for accessing the Web
- Screen sizes up to 12.1 inches and typically no optical drive (to reduce weight)
- Full physical QWERTY keyboard and trackpad to enable Web navigation and longer communications
- Share operating systems with laptops and desktop PCs, such as Windows 7
- Integrated Wi-Fi; some have 3G service for anywhere connectivity
- Store some media and files with hard drives between 160GB and 250GB
- Longer battery life than laptops

Laptops



- Medium and large clamshell form factors for users who want a more desktop PC-like experience on the move
- Screen sizes from 11 inches up to and beyond 18 inches and powerful enough for gaming, multitasking, and more
- Built-in CD/DVD or BD (Blu-ray Disc) drives
- Full physical QWERTY keyboard and trackpad to enable Web navigation, longer communications, and some content creation
- Share operating systems with desktop PCs, such as Windows 7 and Mac OS X
- Integrated Wi-Fi; some have 3G service for connecting anywhere
- Store lots of media and files with hard drives larger than 128GB, up to 750GB
- Typically offer shorter battery life than netbooks and tablets (dependent on size and components)

The Day Just Got Easier



Dell Inspiron 14R & 15R Laptops



Dell Inspiron 14R
\$599.99 | www.dell.com



Dell Inspiron 15R
\$899.99

Day-to-day life gets complicated. The Dell Inspiron 14R (\$599.99) and 15R (\$899.99) laptops simplify the complexities by providing the power and connectivity needed to complete tough jobs and entertain you when the work is done. All this in a design that always shows off your personality.

Power

The 14R and 15R tackle video editing, HD movie streaming, and more via:

- The 14R's Intel Core i3 processor, with Hyper-Threading Technology for multitasking and built-in graphics power with Intel HD Graphics
- The 15R's Intel Core i5 processor, which provides Hyper-Threading and HD graphics plus Intel Turbo Boost Technology that adds a bolt of speed when needed
- The 14R's 4GB of DDR3 RAM and 15R's 8GB of DDR3 RAM

Connectivity

At home or away, the 14R and 15R put the Web and more within reach with:

- An Ethernet port and integrated Wi-Fi (802.11n)
- Integrated 4G WiMAX access (service contract required)
- Included Intel Wireless Display technology to wirelessly stream HD-quality media to an HDTV (adapter required)
- An HDMI output
- A 7-in-1 media card reader to transfer photos, music, video, and more

Entertainment

When it's time to unwind, you can:

- Video chat with friends via the 14R and 15R's 1.3MP Web cam
- Watch HD movies on the 14R's 14-inch HD display and 15R's 15.6-inch HD display
- Burn home movies to DVDs using the 14R's DVD±RW/CD-RW and 15R's DVD±RW/Blu-ray Disc/CD-RW optical drives
- Access stored media from the 14R's 500GB and 15R's 750GB hard drive

2nd Generation Intel Core Processors

Performance You Can See

Intel has unleashed the second generation of its Core processors, and they have all the features of their predecessors plus a pile of new ones.

In addition to an increased baseline of performance and energy efficiency, Hyper-Threading still allows each core in the processor to handle two tasks simultaneously, and Turbo Boost 2.0 gives an even faster burst of speed to Core i5 and i7 processors when it's needed.

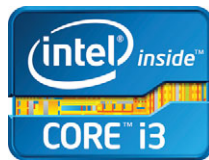
Built-In Visuals

The 2nd Generation Intel Core processors are even smarter than their predecessors; they're constructed with built-in visuals to deliver a stunning, seamless visual experience.

- Intel Clear Video HD Technology enhances sharpness and color, delivers lifelike audio and video, and even extends battery life when you're enjoying 3D and HD playback.
- Intel Quick Sync Technology's hardware acceleration makes creating video much faster, significantly reducing the time it takes to edit, burn, and share your creations.
- Intel HD Graphics has built-in performance for mainstream gaming and provides stunning graphics for all your entertainment needs.
- Intel Wireless Display lets you easily share content from your notebook with your HDTV; with a Wireless Display adapter connected to your HDTV, you can show off photos or video on the big screen with the click of a button.

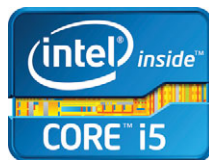


A Processor For Everyone



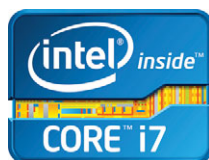
Intel Core i3

Ideal for the budget-conscious consumer, a Core i3 processor delivers superb battery life and reduces energy consumption while easily handling basic computing tasks with **4-way processing**.



Intel Core i5

The Core i5 can handle even more applications at once, including intensive tasks such as video, while maintaining energy efficiency and featuring **4-way processing** and **Turbo Boost technology**.



Intel Core i7

The cream of the Intel crop is the Core i7, which features the same technology as the Core i5 but can handle virtually any set of simultaneous computing tasks you can throw at it as it features **8-way processing** and **Turbo Boost technology**.

Built-In Connectivity

Intel 4G WiMAX & Wireless Display Technology

The Advantage Of Embedded Wireless

Wireless means freedom, be it from cables running through your living room or from being bound to an Ethernet connection. Intel features two built-in wireless technologies in its new processors: Wireless Display and 4G WiMAX.



Wireless Display.

Intel Wireless Display, also known as WiDi, is a technology that makes sharing content from your notebook to your TV as easy as clicking a button. Just attach an adapter to your TV, complete the simple setup, and you're ready to start viewing content from your hard drive or the Web on your TV.



4G WiMAX.

With 4G WiMax, you can access mobile broadband all around town. So you can use your laptop to watch videos, keep in touch with friends, and access files anywhere your 4G WiMAX provider offers coverage.

Both of these technologies are built into almost every Intel Core-based laptop available at Best Buy stores. See the chart to the right to see which laptops have these new wireless capabilities. With embedded technology, the wireless capabilities are built right into your computer, so there's no extra hardware to lose, break, or occupy space in your bag.

Intel Wireless Display- & 4G WiMAX-Capable Notebooks

	Processor	4G WiMAX	Intel Wireless Display
Asus U52F-BBG6	Core i3 380M	✓	✓
Dell I14R-1296TMR	Core i3 380M	✓	
Dell I14R-1296PBL	Core i3 330M	✓	
Dell I14R-1296LPK	Core i3 330M	✓	
Samsung RV511-A01	Core i3 380M	✓	✓
HP DV6-3225DX	Core i3 350M	✓	✓
Toshiba A665-S5170	Core i3 380M	✓	✓
Sony VPCEB42FM	Core i3 380M	✓	✓
Toshiba R835-25*	Core i3 2310M	✓	✓
Sony VPCEA46FM	Core i3 380M	✓	✓
Toshiba M645-S4110	Core i3 380M	✓	✓
Samsung SF410-A01	Core i3 380M	✓	✓
HP DM4-1265DX	Core i5 460M	✓	✓
Toshiba M645-S4114	Core i5 480M	✓	✓
Asus U43F-BBA6	Core i5 480M	✓	✓
Samsung QX410-S02	Core i5 480M	✓	✓
HP DV7-4285DX	Core i5 460M	✓	
Dell i15R-2728MRB	Core i5 480M	✓	
Sony VPCEB47GM	Core i5 480M	✓	✓
Toshiba A665-3DV10*	Core i5 2410M	✓	
Sony VPCF131FM	Core i5 480M	✓	
Toshiba A665-S6100*	Core i7 2630QM	✓	✓
Asus G73SW-BST6*	Core i7 2630QM	✓	
Samsung RC512-S01*	Core i7 2630QM	✓	✓

*2nd Gen Core PCs

Intel AppUp™ center

Thanks to the Intel AppUp center (www.bestbuy.com/appup), your already-nimble netbook can be even more versatile. The Intel AppUp center offers scores of apps that are optimized for Intel Atom-based netbooks and screened for known viruses and spyware, so you can tailor your netbook to your needs. From one of today's most popular smartphone apps, Angry Birds, to the arcade classic Pac-Man—the Intel AppUp center has you covered.

Raise Your Expectations

Essential Power From Lenovo

Why overpay for something that underdelivers? Lenovo (www.lenovo.com) believes in selling powerful and cost-effective computers. All of these systems sport Microsoft® Office 2010 Starter Edition* and the Windows® 7 Home Premium 64-bit operating system.

Lenovo B560

MSRP: \$499

Solid value highlights this model in Lenovo's Essential line of budget-conscious computers. Security takes top billing with the Best Buy-exclusive B560, as is evident from its fingerprint login system, USB port locker technology, Kensington lock support, and face recognition with support for several users. There's 802.11n Wi-Fi to help you connect to the 'Net, plus a Web cam for video chatting over the Internet. Finally, there's Lenovo Energy Management to extend the life of the battery not only between charges, but also over the course of its lifetime.

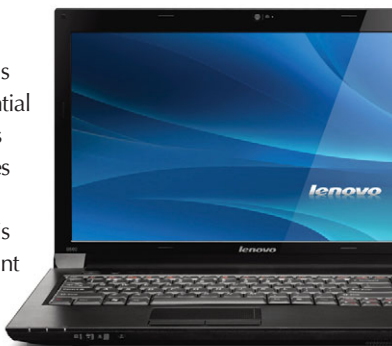
Perfect For: Students, business users, and home users on a budget

- Intel® Pentium® P6200 2.13GHz processor
- 2GB DDR3 memory
- 15.6-inch HD LED Widescreen
- 320GB hard drive
- Gigabit Ethernet
- 4-hour battery life (6-cell)
- Numeric keypad



Coollest feature:

VeriFace face-recognition security.



Lenovo V560

MSRP: \$699

This notebook gives you upgrades in several key areas. It won't limit your wireless Web access to Wi-Fi hotspots; you'll get a signal wherever there's 4G WiMAX coverage from your provider. Meanwhile, Intel's Hyper-Threading technology lets the dual-core CPU run optimized multimedia programs like a quad-core processor. Finally, there's the Active Protection System to guard the spacious hard drive from drops, along with the OneKey Rescue System for data protection.

Perfect For: On-the-go home, school, and office users

- Intel® Core™ i3-380M 2.53GHz processor
- 4GB DDR3 memory
- 15.6-inch HD LED Widescreen
- 500GB hard drive
- 1.3MP Web cam
- 4.5-hour battery life (6-cell)
- Numeric keypad
- Stylish, thin, professional design—only 1.3 inches thick



Coollest feature:

4G WiMAX wireless broadband support.



*Purchase product key to activate.

Lenovo L2261 Wide Flat Panel Monitor

MSRP: \$179.99

Here's a widescreen display that manages to pack Full HD 1080p (1,920 x 1,080) resolution into a 21.5-inch viewable area. LED backlighting provides rich, true-to-life color while reducing power consumption. Finally, the L2261's stand tilts, swivels, and provides cable routing for a clean look.



Lenovo IdeaPad Z565

MSRP: \$599.99

Grab a DVD, put your feet up, and get comfortable. This AMD/ATI-based notebook is an audiovisual powerhouse. Wi-Fi N and Ethernet support make the Z565 a stunning portable widescreen when you'd like to stream A/V content. Oh, and don't worry—this IdeaPad's a powerful productivity system, too.



Perfect For: Movie lovers, video site aficionados, and boardroom presenters

- AMD Phenom II N660 dual-core 3GHz processor
- 3GB DDR3 memory
- ATI Mobility Radeon HD 4270 integrated graphics
- 15.6-inch HD LED Widescreen
- 320GB hard drive
- Dolby® Advanced Audio™ sound enhancement
- HDMI
- DirectShare syncs your files with another laptop
- Island-style keyboard with numeric keypad
- 4.2-hour battery life (6-cell)



Cooler feature: OneKey Theater audio/video enhancement at a single touch.

Lenovo IdeaCentre K330

MSRP: \$699.99

This practical desktop computer gives you top value for your dollar. Packing the latest CPU technology from Intel, not to mention 8GB of RAM, the IdeaCentre K330 can help you get things done. And when it's time for multimedia entertainment, this Lenovo IdeaCentre desktop delivers with HD video and digital surround-sound support. Not just any monitor should be paired with this system's entertainment prowess, so check out the details on the Lenovo L2261 Wide Flat Panel Monitor above.



Perfect For: Value-savvy home and business users

- 2nd Generation Intel® Core™ i3-2100 dual-core 3.1GHz processor
- 8GB of DDR3 memory
- 1TB hard drive (7,200rpm)
- Integrated Intel® HD Graphics 2000
- USB 2.0 ports and memory card slots in front



Cooler feature: Advanced video acceleration technologies baked right into the CPU.

ESSENTIAL THINGS TO KNOW

Monitors

Q Does the size of a monitor directly relate to its resolution?

A No, but larger monitors typically feature higher resolutions because more pixels are necessary to maintain crisp image detail. If two monitors are the same size but offer different resolutions, it's best to select the one with the higher resolution.

Q What is the difference between a DVI and VGA input?

A DVI delivers a digital video signal from your computer to the monitor, while VGA carries an analog video signal that is prone to more interference than digital information. Thus, DVI connections provide you with a much crisper on-screen image.

Q What is the difference between contrast ratio and dynamic contrast ratio?

A Contrast ratio is the measure of the brightest vs. darkest color a monitor can display using a static image. Dynamic contrast ratio makes the same assessment, but over a period of time. The bright/dark highs and lows will vary widely based on the content shown on-screen, so contrast ratio is a more reliable indication of a monitor's light/dark range.

Q What does viewing angle mean?

A Monitors look best when you're looking straight at the screen, but the on-screen content is still viewable up to a given slant, which is the viewing angle.

Q How does the brightness level affect the monitor's quality?

A Measured in nits, the overall brightness of a monitor will impact how easily it can be seen in bright environments, such as a room with natural sunlight or overhead lights. The higher the nit level, the better you'll be able to see the screen in bright conditions.

Q What is a monitor's response time and why does it matter?

A The monitor's response time measures how fast the pixels can change from color to color. The quickness is important to gamers and people that watch movies because it can affect how well fast-action content is displayed.

Q What kind of tests does a monitor need to pass to become Energy Star qualified?

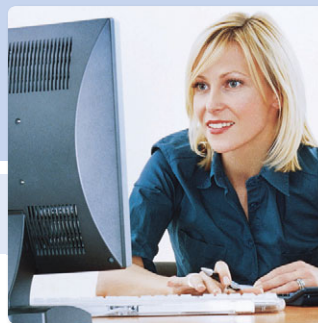
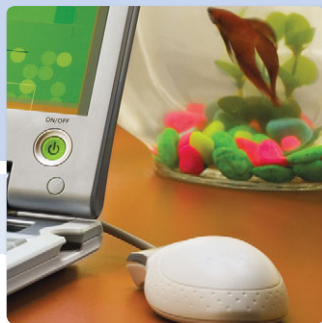
A An Energy Star qualified monitor must meet the strict power consumption limitations set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for On, Sleep, and Off modes.

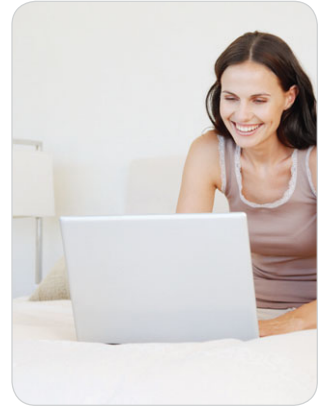
Q How is the screen size of a monitor measured?

A A diagonal measurement is taken from the bottom left corner to the top right corner.

Q What are the benefits of a monitor with an HDMI input?

A Many monitors with built-in speakers feature an HDMI input, so that you'll only need to connect one cable to deliver audio and video from your PC.





Computing Glossary

Shopping for a computer can be intimidating, especially with all of the complex terminology. Here, we'll explain some common computer jargon.

Bluetooth—A short-range wireless standard that connects devices such as computers, printers, headsets, and digital cameras so they can be used together without being connected physically with a cord.

broadband—Network connections that transmit high-speed Internet access. Broadband speed varies depending on the provider. Cable companies offer speeds of around 8 to 11Mbps, whereas phone companies offer DSL, which supports speeds of 3 to 5Mbps.

CRT (cathode-ray tube)—An old analog display technology for TVs and computer monitors. It features an electron gun illuminating phosphor dots that line the inside of a glass tube. When the phosphors are lit, they display on-screen images. CRTs consume a great deal of power and are heavy and bulky. Many CRTs support digital signals, though these degrade when converted to analog.

dual-core processor—This integrated circuit, which controls the computer,

features two processors, each with its own cache, on a single die or chassis. In a dual-core configuration, the operating system has two processors to handle instructions, speeding up the computer and its ability to multitask.

Ethernet—A widely used LAN protocol in which computers and networks are physically linked with a cord.

firewall—Hardware or software that limits access by a network or another outside source to your computer; it also may limit your computer's access to the network. These security measures are designed to protect your computer from outsiders who'd like to exploit it in some way. By the same token, firewalls may prevent infected files on your computer from accessing the larger network and spreading the problem to other users.

LAN (local-area network)—A group of computers that are physically connected by wires so they can communicate with one another and share information.

LCD (liquid-crystal display)—This technology sandwiches liquid crystals between thin sheets of glass. The crystals twist and untwist to allow and block light from a backlight, forming the images you see. LCDs are thinner, lighter, and consume less power than CRTs. Initially used mostly in notebook PCs,

you'll now find LCD TVs and computer monitors, and they are also in digital cameras, cell phones, portable DVD players, and other devices.

office suite—Productivity software, such as Microsoft Office, StarOffice, and OpenOffice, that often includes word processing, spreadsheet, presentation, database, and financial tools.

operating system—The software, such as Windows Vista, Windows 7, or Mac OS X, that controls a computer and its peripherals and serves as the primary interface for the users.







processor—Also known as a microprocessor or the CPU, this integrated circuit controls the computer.

RAM (random-access memory)—A type of memory that's read from and written to by the CPU and hardware.

upgradeable—This term refers to the ability to add or swap out hardware to boost a computer's performance, increase its speed, or replace a defective or obsolete device or component. For instance, you may add more memory, replace an old CRT with a widescreen LCD, or swap out an older video card for a newer one that features an ATSC TV tuner so you can watch digital TV on your computer. Look for a computer with expansion slots or empty bays.

Which Laptop Computer Is Best For You?








A laptop computer is a pretty big purchase for most people, and it's usually a bit overwhelming, too. This chart compares the features and specs from several different types of laptop models.

		Operating system	Processor	Hard drive size; RAM	Graphics Card	Dimensions; Weight	Optical drives; Media card reader
	What It Means	The software (usually Windows or Mac OS X) that controls your computer	Chip that controls the computer (typically, a bigger number is better)	How much data the computer can hold; Memory that's read and written to	Controls the quality of your video and images	Height x width x depth; How much the laptop weighs; Screen size	Drives that can read and write discs; Slots that read media cards without a separate peripheral
	Gateway NV55C03u MSRP: \$449.99* SKU 1250664	Windows 7 Home Premium	2GHz Intel Pentium	320GB; 3GB	Intel HD	1.3x15x10 inches; 5.7 pounds; 15.6 inches	Double-layer DVD±RW/CD-RW; Yes
	HP G42-303DX MSRP: \$449.99* SKU 1623912	Windows 7 Home Premium	2.4GHz AMD Turion II	320GB; 3GB	ATI Mobility Radeon HD 4250	1.4x13.5x9 inches; 4.9 pounds; 14 inches	Double-layer DVD±RW/CD-RW; Yes
	Toshiba Satellite C655-S5128 MSRP: \$525.99* SKU 1974715	Windows 7 Home Premium	2.53GHz Intel Core i3	500GB; 4GB	Mobile Intel HD	1.5x15.1x11 inches; 5.5 pounds; 15.6 inches	Double-layer DVD±RW/CD-RW; Yes
	Lenovo IdeaPad V560-43422GU MSRP: \$549.99* SKU 1945268	Windows 7 Home Premium	2.53GHz Intel Core i3	500GB; 4GB	Intel Graphics Media Accelerator HD	1.3x14.8x10 inches; 5.4 pounds; 15.6 inches	Double-layer DVD±RW/CD-RW; Yes
	Dell Inspiron 14R-1296PK MSRP: \$599.99* SKU 1648231	Windows 7 Home Premium	2.53GHz Intel Core i3	500GB; 4GB	Intel HD	1.2x13.5x10 inches; 5 pounds; 14 inches	DVD±RW/CD-RW; Yes
	Samsung SD410-A01 MSRP: \$699.99* SKU 1813049	Windows 7 Home Premium	2.53GHz Intel Core i3	640GB; 4GB	Intel HD	1.4x14.9x10.1 inches; 5.3 pounds; 14 inches	Double-layer DVD±RW/CD-RW; Yes
	Sony VAIO VPCEA46FM/V MSRP: \$799.99* SKU 1892035	Windows 7 Home Premium	2.53GHz Intel Core i3	640GB; 4GB	Intel HD	1.1x13.6x9.4 inches; 5.2 pounds; 14 inches	DVD±RW/Blu-ray Disc/CD-RW; Yes
	Asus U43JC-BBA6 MSRP: \$879.99* SKU 2043062	Windows 7 Home Premium	2.66GHz Intel Core i5	640GB; 4GB	NVIDIA GeForce 310M	1.25x13.5x9.5 inches; 4.7 pounds; 14 inches	Double-layer DVD±RW/CD-RW; Yes

*Prices listed in this issue are for general reference and may vary from retailer pricing.

Which Netbook Is Best For You?

Netbooks don't offer the full capabilities that notebooks do, but these compact devices are ideal for those who need to stay connected while on the go. To find the netbook that fits your mobility needs, here's a comparison of the latest models.

		Operating system	Processor	Hard drive size; RAM	Graphics card	Memory card reader	Ports
	What It Means	The software (usually Windows XP or 7) that controls your PC	Chip that controls the computer (typically, a bigger number is better)	How much data the computer can hold; Memory that's read and written to	Controls the quality of the video and images you see on-screen	Slots that can read media cards without a separate peripheral	Sockets that give your computer access to different peripherals
	Toshiba mini NB505-N500BL MSRP: \$287.99* SKU 1853531	Windows 7 Starter	1.66GHz Intel Atom	250GB; 1GB	Intel Graphics Media Accelerator 3150	SD/SDHC/SDXC/MMC	3 USB; 1 VGA; 1 Ethernet
	HP Mini 210-2145dx MSRP: \$329.99* SKU 1783123	Windows 7 Starter	1.66GHz Intel Atom	250GB; 1GB	Intel Graphics Media Accelerator 3150	SD/SDHC/MMC/MS/MS PRO	3 USB; 1 VGA; 1 Ethernet
	Samsung N145-JP02 MSRP: \$339.99* SKU 1944065	Windows 7 Starter	1.66GHz Intel Atom	250GB; 1GB	Intel Graphics Media Accelerator 3150	SD/SDHC/SDXC/MMC	3 USB; 1 VGA; 1 Ethernet
	Asus Eee PC 1015PEB-RD601 MSRP: \$349* SKU 9966308	Windows 7 Starter	1.66GHz Intel Atom	250GB; 1GB	Intel Graphics Media Accelerator 3150	SD/SDHC/MMC	3 USB; 1 VGA; 1 Ethernet
	Dell Inspiron Mini 1012-2199OBK MSRP: \$384* SKU 1063166	Windows 7 Starter	1.66GHz Intel Atom	250GB; 1GB	Crystal HD Broadcom Media Accelerator	SD/SDHC/MMC/MS/MS PRO	3 USB; 1 VGA; 1 Ethernet
	HP Mini Netbook 210-2185dx MSRP: \$399.99* SKU 1799075	Windows 7 Starter	1.66GHz Intel Atom	250GB; 1GB	Intel Graphics Media Accelerator 3150	SD/SDHC/MMC/MS/MS PRO	3 USB; 1 VGA; 1 Ethernet
	Toshiba mini NB305-N444BN MSRP: \$479* SKU 9999013	Windows 7 Starter	1.66GHz Intel Atom	250GB; 1GB	Intel Graphics Media Accelerator 3150	SD/SDHC/SDXC/MMC	3 USB; 1 VGA; 1 Ethernet
	Lenovo IdeaPad 0651-7HU MSRP: \$529* SKU 1485072	Windows 7 Home Premium	1.66GHz Intel Atom	250GB; 1GB	Intel Graphics Media Accelerator 3150	SD/SDHC/MMC/MS/MS PRO/xD-Picture Card	2 USB; 1 VGA; 1 Ethernet

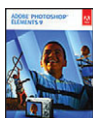
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Software Listings

Get More Out Of Your PC

Computers can be used to create greeting cards, play games, keep track of your finances, and more. The thing is, most of these functions aren't available straight out of the box. To fully harness your computer's potential, you'll need to buy software. Here are some options.

Audio, Photo & Video



Adobe Photoshop Elements 9

\$99.99*

www.adobe.com

Easily edit, share, and manage your photo collection and get professional results using Adobe Photoshop Elements 9.



Broderbund Print Shop 2.0 Professional

\$89.99*

www.broderbund.com

Create sophisticated projects using the Wizard Design tool or a ready-made template. You can create greeting cards, banners, newsletters, photo projects, and more.



Roxio Creator 2011

\$99.99*

www.roxio.com

Use Roxio Creator 2011 to easily capture, enhance, and preserve your photos, videos, and audio projects. New features include 3D effects, video stabilization and rotation, and a redesigned backdrop interface. 3D glasses are also included.



Corel PaintShop Photo Pro X3 Ultimate

\$99.99*

www.corel.com

Corel PaintShop Photo Pro X3 lets you manage, edit, and share your digital photos. Make automatic fixes in the enhanced Express Lab or you can use the included advanced editing tools.



Pinnacle Studio Ultimate Collection

\$129.99*

www.pinnaclesys.com

Pinnacle Studio Ultimate Collection comes with a full set of plug-ins and a Chroma-key green screen for advanced effects, editing, and production.



Adobe Premiere Elements 9

\$99.99*

www.adobe.com

Turn your home videos into movies using special effects, music, and images from Adobe Premiere Elements 9. Once you're done, you can share them via disc or the Internet.



Roxio Easy VHS To DVD

\$59.99*

www.roxio.com

Use Roxio's Easy VHS To DVD software to easily transfer video from VHS, Hi8, V8, or analog camcorders to DVD. You can also edit the video and add professional effects.



Nero 10 Multimedia Suite Platinum HD

\$129.99*

www.nero.com

Nero 10 Multimedia Suite Platinum HD makes it easy to import video from nearly any source, add effects, and then burn the final result to BD, DVD, or CD. You can also share it between mobile devices.

Business Applications



Microsoft Office Home & Student 2010

\$149.99*

www.microsoft.com

The Home and Student version of Microsoft Office 2010 has enhanced features for creating and managing documents and includes Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and OneNote.



Individual Software ResumeMaker Professional

\$29.95*

www.individualsoftware.com

It's easy to write a professional resume quickly using ResumeMaker Professional. The software also includes advanced search tools.

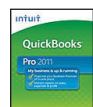


Intuit Quicken Home & Business 2011

\$99.99*

www.quicken.intuit.com

The 2011 version of Quicken Home and Business will help you categorize your home and business finances and show you profits and losses at a glance. Plus, you can streamline the tax-paying process when the time comes.



Intuit QuickBooks Pro 2011

\$229.95*

www.quickbooks.intuit.com

Easily keep track of your company's finances with QuickBooks Pro 2011. You can view expense and income breakdowns, account balances, and more, so it's easy to know where your money is going.

* Prices listed in this issue are for general reference and may vary from retail pricing.

FirstGlimpse

Games/ Entertainment



**Activision Barbie
& The Three
Musketeers**
\$19.99*

www.activision.com
Choose a character with a unique ability to help you tackle obstacles and solve puzzles to uncover a plot against the prince and become a true musketeer.



**Disney Interactive
Studio Alice In
Wonderland**
\$19.99*

disney.go.com/disneyinteractivestudios
Inspired by the Tim Burton film, this game lets you fall down the rabbit hole and experience Alice's adventure in Wonderland. You can play as the Mad Hatter, White Rabbit, or another character from the film to help Alice on her journey.



**Electronic Arts
The Sims 3**
\$49.95*

www.ea.com
Create your very own Sims. Customize their personalities, appearances, and homes and send them out into the world to explore the neighborhood and meet new friends.



**Lego Indiana Jones
2: The Adventure
Continues**
\$29.99*

www.lucasarts.com
Explore the locations from all four films and build your own levels and environments. Your favorite Indiana Jones characters are depicted in Lego form.

Home Productivity



**Nuance Dragon
NaturallySpeaking
11 Home**
\$99.99*

www.nuance.com
Dictate emails, reports, and documents much faster than you can type by letting Dragon NaturallySpeaking do the typing for you. The software has an accuracy rate of up to 99%.



Apple MobileMe
\$99*
www.apple.com

MobileMe, Apple's Internet service, lets you keep your email, contacts, and calendar up-to-date across your iPhone, iPod touch, Mac, and PC. It also lets you store and share documents online via iDisk, and you can manage everything online through a suite of Web applications at www.me.com.



**H&R Block
At Home
Deluxe**
\$44.95*

www.handrblock.com
The Deluxe version of H&R Block At Home makes it easy for homeowners and investors to file tax returns. Once you're done, you can use the five included federal e-files to file online.



**Nova Development
Family Tree
Maker Deluxe**
\$69.95*

novadevelopment.com
Explore and preserve your family history with the software, a free three-month subscription to Ancestry.com, an iPhone app, and more.

Security/ Utilities



**Kaspersky Lab
Internet Security
2011**
\$79.95*

www.kaspersky.com
This software includes features to protect you from the latest viruses, spyware, and malware threats for one year and three PCs.



**Kaspersky Lab
Pure Total
Security**
\$89.95*

www.kaspersky.com
Kaspersky Pure Total Security offers all-in-one protection for your PC. It protects against Internet threats and identity theft and also offers backup, encryption, and clean-up tools.



**Webroot Internet
Security Complete
2011**
\$79.95*

www.webroot.com
Internet Security Complete can protect your computer from spyware, viruses, and spam. It also uses advanced technologies to ensure your identity is safe as you shop and browse the Internet. You can also back up digital photos and other files and sync them with a PC.



**Trend Micro
Titanium Maximum
Security**
\$39.95*

www.trendmicro.com
Trend Micro's Titanium Maximum Security is easy to use and provides a variety of tools that can keep your computer and identity safe.

System Clean-Up & Repair



**Avanquest
Fix-It Utilities
11 Professional**
\$49.95*

www.avanquest.com
Make your computer run like new. Use Fix-It Utilities 11 to defragment, clean, repair, and optimize your Windows registry to improve overall PC performance and check your system memory, hard drive, and more.



**iolo System
Mechanic**
\$49.95*
www.iolo.com

With System Mechanic, you can find and fix errors and fragmentation on your PC, clean out clutter, and optimize your system for best performance.



**Acronis True
Image Home
2011**
\$49.99*

www.acronis.com
This software backs up your entire computer, including the operating system, files, settings, and more, so you can easily recreate your system in the event of data loss.



**iolo
DriveScrubber**
\$29.95*
www.iolo.com

When it's time to get rid of your old computer, use DriveScrubber to ensure all of your personal data has been deleted. DriveScrubber will wipe your entire drive, including free space, and restore damaged drives.

NOTEWORTHY

Accessories & Services

A computer is a big investment, and now that you've taken the plunge, it's time to decide what accessories you need to go along with that shiny new purchase. We've rounded up several of our favorite extras for every computer owner. Whether you have a laptop or desktop, be sure to add these items to your shopping list to complete your computing experience.



KEYBOARD

- An ergonomic design can cut down on the wrist strain associated with carpal tunnel syndrome
- Bluetooth connectivity lends itself to a tidy desk because there's one less wire to contend with
- A specialty model, such as a gaming or media keyboard, adds functionality to your pastime of choice



EXTERNAL HARD DRIVE

- Protect precious video and photo memories: Back up to an external hard drive
- Keep your computer running more efficiently by saving large files, such as your media collection, on an external drive



USB HUB

- Offers an affordable way to connect all of your peripherals, even if you have more gadgets than USB ports
- Adds the convenience of easy USB access—no more reaching behind your computer to plug in your USB devices



MOUSE

- A wireless mouse will cut down on cable clutter at your desk and also offers the convenience of portability for laptop use
- A gaming mouse can deliver better accuracy and speed for the ultimate in control
- Consider customizable buttons if you want to be able to access media, files, or programs with one-touch convenience



CLEANING KIT

- Specially designed cleaners will keep your computer screen clean without running the risk of scratching its surface
- Cloths are often made of low-conductivity material in order to reduce static



SURGE PROTECTOR

- Ensure the electrical current running to your desktop or laptop computer doesn't exceed proper levels
- Portable models will protect your laptop when you're on the go for work or play



WEB CAM

- Bridge the gap between long-distance family and friends with online video chatting by adding a Web cam to your setup



PRINTER

- A quality photo printer will eliminate trips to the drugstore for prints and give you the ability to instantly share your photo memories
- An all-in-one model is the perfect addition for any busy family that needs a device that can operate as a copier, scanner, fax machine, and printer



COMPUTING SERVICES

To keep your desktop or laptop computer in tip-top shape, take advantage of the computing services offered at your local CE retailer. They can help you keep your machine running smoothly and free from the dangers that lurk online.

- Computer Setup & Networking
- Virus & Spyware Removal
- Data Backup & Recovery
- Hardware & Software Upgrades
- Training & Consultation

JBL On Air™ Wireless Airplay® Speaker Dock

Audio Anytime From Anywhere



"One good thing about music: When it hits you, you feel no pain." Bob Marley sang those words, and he was right. Often, though, the songs we want to "hit" us immediately are inconveniently stored on a computer located several rooms away. If only there was a way to instantly cue up "Trenchtown Rock" or any other track from anywhere in the house. With the JBL On Air Wireless Airplay Speaker Dock (\$349; www.jbl.com), there is.

JBL On Air Wireless
Airplay Speaker Dock
\$349 | www.jbl.com

Play With AirPlay

With Apple's AirPlay network technology onboard, the JBL On Air Wireless Airplay Speaker Dock lets you:

- Stream any song from an entire iTunes music library (version 10 or higher) from an iPhone, iPod touch, iPad, or Mac or PC via a Wi-Fi connection
- Stream audio simultaneously to multiple On Air systems in separate rooms
- Use Apple's free Remote app to navigate and control iTunes songs via an iPhone, iPod touch, or iPad
- View album artwork and song data on the On Air Wireless Airplay Speaker Dock's built-in color LCD

Dock & Rock

Beyond integrating a connector so you can dock and charge any iPod or iPhone model, JBL's system can:

- Play FM radio stations complete with RDS (Radio Data System) support to display track, album, and artist data
- Stream Internet radio stations from iTunes
- Output audio from non-Apple MP3 players and other audio sources connected to the system's auxiliary port
- Display text in five different languages

Extras That Matter

Additional On Air Wireless Airplay Speaker System Dock features include:

- Dual alarm clocks for waking to iPod, iPhone, or FM radio music or a buzzer
- Three JBL transducers arranged in a HALO (horizontal acoustic level optimization) design for rich, full-spectrum audio that spreads 360 degrees
- Proprietary COE (computer-optimized equalization) and OCT (optimized compression topology), DSP technologies that output booming, clear audio
- An included IR remote that can control audio from up to 15 feet away

HOW TO BUY

MP3 Player Accessories

Add Fun & Useful Extras



MP3 players are useful whether you are storing your workout playlists, listening to your favorite albums, or watching video clips. And there are a variety of accessories that make your MP3 player even more versatile. Let's take a look at the options.

Chargers and cables. A power adapter lets you charge your MP3 player using an AC/DC converter (for wall outlets) and a compatible cable. To connect your MP3 player to audio or video equipment, look for an appropriate cable that's compatible with your player. For instance, a 3.5mm auxiliary cable will plug into your player's headphone jack and route audio to a sound system with an open 3.5mm port. Composite audio cables feed sound to stereos with Composite inputs, and Composite or Component A/V cables carry audio and video to compatible TVs.

Speakers and docks. A compatible speaker system will let you share your tunes with a roomful of friends. Some systems require a cable attachment, whereas others include an embedded dock connector so you can plug your device directly into the system.

... share your tunes with a roomful of friends.

Clock radios and car connections.

You can wake up to your favorite songs when you use an alarm clock radio with an MP3 player dock. During your morning commute, you can listen to audio books using a cassette adapter, auxiliary cable, FM transmitter, or direct-connect kit. CE car tech professionals can install kits and factory deck adapters so you can listen to and charge your MP3 player via the stereo system.

... you can listen to and charge your MP3 player via the stereo system.

Cases. Cases are available in a variety of materials including hard plastic that protects your MP3 player if it falls out of your purse. Other cases are soft and are constructed of absorbing gel materials, silicone, or neoprene (durable rubber).

Headphone Construction

How Price Factors Into Quality

Typically, acquiring the durability that results from superior engineering and quality materials means paying more. Headphones are no exception. The following illustrates why the price you pay generally equals a better-constructed pair of headphones.

BY BLAINE FLAMIG

Headband

Compared to flimsy, nonadjustable headbands some low-end headphones possess using little or no padding, high-end models may provide handcrafted, adjustable, multilayered steel and/or plastic bands with ample padding wrapped in genuine leather or other quality, soft materials.

Earcups

Low-end headphones typically sport plastic earcups with foam or artificial leather cushioning attached to the headband with plastic fittings. Conversely, high-end models may possess aluminum, stainless steel, wood, or high-tech plastic pivoting earcups with replaceable cushions offering thicker padding and leather, velvet, velour, or other material.

Cable

Unlike thin, plastic, easy-splitting cables some headphones use, higher-end models usually have longer, thicker, and more flexible cables possibly braided, detachable, integrating a strain-relief mechanism, and/or boasting a Kevlar-like shielding.

Connector

High-end models typically provide a gold-plated jack vs. bare-metal contact that prevents corrosion and produces a better electrical connection and audio signal.



Record Lectures, Interviews & More

Sony Digital Voice Recorder ICDPX312



















When you need to remember something important, tying a string around your finger just isn't going to cut it. With the Sony Digital Voice Recorder ICDPX312 (\$59.95; www.sonystyle.com), you can record hundreds of hours of reminders, catalog every syllable of lectures and meetings you attend, and collect interviews for future reference.

Record On Your Terms

- **Expandable Memory.** The ICDPX312 has 2GB of flash memory built-in, and you can add more memory via the MicroSD card slot—up to 32GB. This lets you swap cards for recording sessions.
- **INC (Intelligent Noise Cut).** Sony's technology reduces ambient noise in playback, making voices more clear and easier to understand. The original recording is always there should the user choose not to engage the INC feature.
- **Scene Select.** Just like a digital camera, the voice recorder offers settings for different recording situations, such as voice notes or an interview. These automatically adjust the device's recording mode (Kbps), mic sensitivity, low cut filter, and noise cut to deliver the best results.
- **Track Mark.** This feature lets you drop up to 99 electronic bookmarks in the recording. By pressing the Fast Forward or Rewind button, you can quickly jump to specific locations in longer recordings.

Match A Sony Digital Recorder To Your Needs

Sony's digital voice recorders offer quality recording and a variety of features. Take a look at the chart below to choose the recorder that's right for you.

		Built-In Memory	Recording Formats	Inputs/Outputs	Approximate Battery Life (Recording)
ICDBX112	Price: \$39.95 SKU 1792267	2GB*	MP3	 	55 hours
ICDPX312	Price: \$59.95 SKU 1792142	2GB*	MP3	    Mini-B	72 hours
ICDAX412	Price: \$79.95 SKU 1792258	2GB*	MP3	    Mini-B	84 hours
ICDUX512	Price: \$99.95 SKU 1792249 (black) SKU 1792133 (red)	2GB*	LPCM, MP3	    Type-A	29 hours
ICDSX712	Price: \$149.95 SKU 1792124	2GB*	LPCM, MP3	    Mini-B	25 hours

 Mic  Micro SD Card Slot  Headphone  USB

*2 GB equals 2,147,483,648 bytes, a portion of which is used for data management functions. Available capacity is approximately 1.80 GB (1932735283 bytes).



Sony Digital Voice Recorder ICDPX312
\$59.95 | www.sonystyle.com



XIXMp3i Portable Radio from XM
\$199.99 • www.xmradio.com

Expand Your Entertainment Options

Satellite Radio Offers Exclusive Content & Features

If you're like most of us, you have favorites: favorite songs, favorite sports, favorite talk shows, and more. But with a standard radio, you can't always get to them when and where you want: You might lose your favorite station when you cross the state line. Consider satellite radio as a potential solution.

What Is Satellite Radio?

Like satellite television, satellite radio is a pay-for-service entertainment medium to which you subscribe on a monthly or yearly basis. In this case, your satellite radio receives a digital signal broadcast by satellites that orbit the earth. One or more are constantly overhead, so you always have coverage; unlike terrestrial radio broadcasts, satellite radio coverage is literally nationwide. In fact, satellite radio—provided in the United States by Sirius|XM—is available in the 48 contiguous states and the District of Columbia, and some coverage is available in Puerto Rico.

Satellite and terrestrial programming differ, of course; your favorite local DJs won't be available on satellite. But with satellite radio, you can choose from very specific entertainment options, listening to niche offerings such as music from the '30s or '40s, all comedy, etc.

A Radio To Fit Your Lifestyle

Satellite radios come in different forms, all delivering more than 130 crystal-clear, static-free stations. Stationary receivers can connect to most existing audio systems, so it's easy to add satellite radio to your media options. If you travel a lot, look into satellite receivers made especially for your car; some transmit to your car's FM radio, while others are permanently wired and might need to be installed professionally. If you're a hiker or otherwise often on the move, consider truly portable units, such as the XMp3i Portable Radio from XM (\$199.99; www.xmradio.com). Some satellite radios can play MP3 files and record and play back shows at your convenience. Accessories such as speaker docks can add flexibility to your portable satellite radio experience, allowing you to dock your portable radio so you can listen at home.

ESSENTIAL THINGS TO KNOW

GPS-Enabled Devices

Q How will I know if a mobile phone or tablet offers GPS navigation capabilities?

A Most new smartphones come with GPS, and some tablets do as well. Typically, GPS functionality will be listed in the device's features.

Q Will I need to download an application to receive turn-by-turn directions on my mobile device?

A Mobile phones generally come with a navigation app that provides you with turn-by-turn directions, but you can also download a navigation program, such as Google Maps.

Q What are the benefits of a GPS-enabled phone or tablet for navigation over a standalone GPS?

A You won't need to carry a separate device to provide route guidance while you're traveling, and you're more likely to be able to use a GPS-enabled phone or tablet for walking directions.

Q Are there disadvantages when using a GPS-enabled device instead of a standalone GPS for turn-by-turn directions?

A The constant GPS signal and use of the navigation software can quickly run down your cell phone or tablet battery. Additionally, route guidance might be disrupted if you need to take a phone call or use the mobile device for another purpose.

Q Will I be able to receive GPS navigation on my phone or tablet in areas without a cellular signal?

A Because the default navigation applications on your GPS-enabled devices rely on the data connection to provide directions, your GPS-enabled device will not, by default, provide route guidance. That being said, you can purchase a navigation application for some devices that provides offline GPS capabilities.

Q Why is the GPS turned off by default on most GPS-enabled devices?

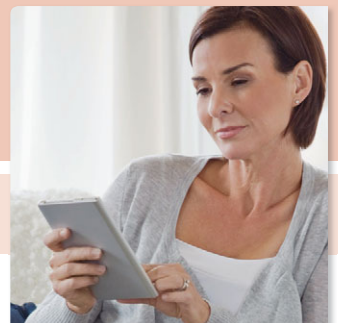
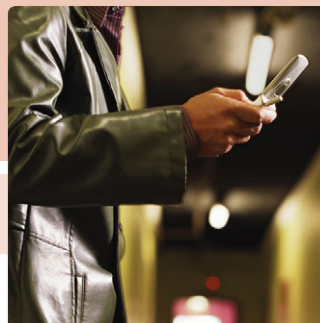
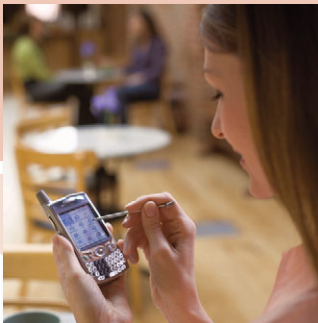
A When the GPS is on, it's constantly searching for the GPS signal, which reduces your device's battery life. For this reason, manufacturers allow you to turn the GPS function on or off, based on when you need it.

Q What kinds of apps on my phone or tablet can typically utilize GPS locations for reference?

A Most location-based applications, such as points-of-interest and weather programs, take advantage of GPS coordinates to provide you with information about your location and nearby destinations.

Q Can I use the GPS-enabled device to share my location with others?

A There are a number of services, such as Foursquare, Facebook, and Twitter, that let you share your GPS location when you post an update.



MP3 Player Glossary

Who doesn't want an MP3 player? It can help you relax, motivate you, and ensure you always have a song to match your mood. When you head to your local CE retailer to snag one, make sure you have this glossary so you can choose the perfect model.

AAC—Short for Advanced Audio Codec, this format is a competitor of the more common MP3 file format. It is the default format used by Apple.

Bluetooth—A wireless technology, supported by some MP3 players, that connects devices with short-range radio frequencies.

capacity—How much data a player can hold. This is typically expressed in gigabytes or megabytes. Generally speaking, 1GB will hold about 250 songs.

download—In terms of digital music, downloading is when you retrieve a song from an Internet site or another network connection and save it to your computer or portable music player. You can download songs from music Web sites such as iTunes, Napster, or Rhapsody.

DRM (digital rights management)—DRM is a security mechanism for digital media, associated with copyright. A common DRM scheme for digital music involves getting a licensed file to authorize playback of a free or purchased song.

earbuds—Small, circular devices you put into your ears so you can listen to music on your player. These serve the same function as headphones. Many music players include their own earbuds, but

you can purchase a separate pair that is more comfortable or of better quality.

flash memory—Solid-state memory with no moving parts that is lightweight and small. In terms of digital music players, a flash-based player is lighter and smaller than a hard drive-based player, and also, it won't skip. Thus, flash-based players are popular for use during exercise. However, the capacity of a flash-based player isn't as large as a hard drive-based player.

FM tuner—If your music player has a built-in FM tuner, you will be able to listen to music that is broadcast from local radio stations.

hard drive—Storage that consists of rigid platters inside a fixed casing. In terms of digital music players, a hard drive-based player is larger and heavier than a flash-based player. Because of the moving parts (the platters), hard drive-based players are also prone to skipping. However, their capacities are much larger than those of flash-based players.

music management program—A program, such as iTunes or Napster, that loads onto your computer and lets you play, organize, download, and purchase media, such as music and videos, for your player or PC.



MP3—Perhaps the most popular digital audio encoding format. It compresses audio to about one-twelfth the original size while still providing excellent sound. In general, a 1MB MP3 file will last about one minute.

playlist—A queue of songs a user creates to play on a computer, burn to a CD, or transfer to an MP3 player. The playlist will only include directions to the location of the songs, not the actual songs themselves.

podcast—A downloadable episode that is similar to a radio program. A user can subscribe to a podcast for updated episodes, or she can download podcasts one at a time.

screen—The display on the front of a portable music player. A player's screen can either display in color or black and white.

WMA—Windows Media Audio is a digital audio format created by Microsoft.

widescreen—A screen that has a 16:9 aspect ratio.

Which MP3 Player Is Best For You?

iPods are cool, sure, but you have other choices when it comes to listening to your tunes. This chart compares the most important—and coolest—features from select MP3 players.









		Memory type	Capacity	Video capabilities	FM tuner	Colors	Battery life
	What It Means	Hard drive (moving parts, more capacity) or flash (no moving parts)	How much memory the player has**	Some MP3 players can play video	Some MP3 players let you listen to radio stations	Several players offer a variety of color choices	How long the battery will last when playing music
	SanDisk Sansa Clip+ MSRP: \$39.99*; \$49.99* SKU 9448449	Flash	2GB; 4GB	No	Yes	Black, purple, blue	15 hours
	Apple iPod shuffle MSRP: \$49* SKU 9845475	Flash	2GB	No	No	Orange, silver, pink, green, blue	15 hours
	Sony W Series Walkman MSRP: \$59.99* SKU 9964382	Flash	2GB	No	No	Black	11 hours
	SanDisk Sansa Fuze+ MSRP: \$89.99* SKU 1116229	Flash	8GB	Yes	Yes	Blue, purple, black, white	24 hours
	Sony S Series Walkman MSRP: \$99.99*; \$119.99* SKU 9443827	Flash	8GB; 16GB	Yes	Yes	Black, violet, red	42 hours
	Apple iPod nano MSRP: \$149*; \$179* SKU 1161925	Flash	8GB; 16GB	No	Yes	Pink, orange, green, blue, silver, graphite	24 hours
	Microsoft Zune HD MSRP: \$179.99*; \$229.99* SKU 9449581	Flash	16GB; 32GB	Yes	Yes	Black, platinum silver	33 hours
	Apple iPod touch MSRP: \$229*; \$299*; \$399* SKU 9225377	Flash	8GB; 32GB; 64GB	Yes	No	Black	40 hours

*Prices listed in this issue are for general reference and may vary from retailer pricing.

**One gigabyte of memory will hold approximately 250 songs. Actual capacity will vary depending on song length and format.

Which GPS Device Is Right For You?

One of the hottest CE devices around right now is a GPS, and what a useful device it is, too. Here, we compare some models available on today's market. All of these units come with maps already loaded, and you can purchase additional maps, as well.

		Screen size; Dimensions	Text-to-speech; Traffic receiver	Preloaded maps	WAAS	Bluetooth; MP3 playback	Included charging adapters
	What It Means	The diagonal measurement of the screen; Height x width x depth	Unit calls out specific street names; Unit receives traffic updates and re-routes accordingly	The regional maps that come included with the GPS unit	A satellite and ground station system that gives exceptional GPS accuracy	Some units communicate wirelessly with other Bluetooth devices or play MP3s	AC adapters plug into the wall; DC adapters plug into your car's cigarette lighter
	Insignia NS-NAV01 MSRP: \$99.99* SKU 9351603	4.3 inches; 3.1x4.7x0.6 inches	Yes; No	Entire U.S.	Yes	No; No	DC adapter
	Insignia NS-NAV02R MSRP: \$129.99* SKU 9953155	4.3 inches; 3.3x4.9x0.8 inches	Yes; No	Entire U.S.	No	No; No	DC adapter
	Magellan RoadMate 1424 MSRP: \$129.99* SKU 9894383	4.3 inches; 3.3x5x0.6 inches	Yes; Yes (with optional traffic receiver)	Entire U.S. (including Puerto Rico) and Canada	Yes	No; No	DC adapter
	Magellan RoadMate 3045-LM MSRP: \$219.99* SKU 9895142	4.7 inches; 3.4x5.4x0.6 inches	Yes; Yes	Entire U.S. (including Puerto Rico) and Canada	Yes	No; No	DC adapter
	Garmin nüvi 1390LMT MSRP: \$229.99* SKU 2120256	4.3 inches; 2.9x4.8x0.6 inches	Yes; Yes	Entire U.S. (including Puerto Rico) and Canada	No	Yes; No	DC adapter
	Garmin nüvi 1450LMT MSRP: \$239.99* SKU 1089764	5 inches; 3.4x5.4x0.6 inches	Yes; Yes	Entire U.S. (including Puerto Rico) and Canada	No	No; No	DC adapter
	TomTom XXL 550TM MSRP: \$259.95* SKU 1334083	5 inches; 3.8x4.7x0.9 inches	Yes; No	Entire U.S. (including Puerto Rico), Canada, and Mexico	No	No; No	DC adapter
	TomTom GO 2505TM MSRP: \$319.95* SKU 1582074	5 inches; 3.5x5.6x0.7 inches	Yes; No	Entire U.S. (including Puerto Rico), Canada, and Mexico	No	Yes; No	DC adapter

*Prices listed in this issue are for general reference and may vary from retailer pricing.

NOTEWORTHY

Accessories & Services

No matter where you are going, a wireless device can add enjoyment to your journey. To make sure you are taking full advantage of the capabilities your portable devices offer, check your local CE retailer for accessories that can enhance your mobile experiences. We've listed our favorites below.



GPS CHARGERS

- Make sure your travel companion always has a full battery
- If you do run out of battery, charge your GPS with an adapter; these can plug into a wall, PC, or car's DC outlet



MP3 PLAYER CASES

- Protect your MP3 player from bumps and scratches
- Quickly access your player's functions with a clip
- Keep your player out of your way with an armband



GPS MOUNTS

- Mounts can be placed on a car dash or stuck to a windshield to be within reach



MP3 PLAYER EARPHONES

- Match earphones to your needs: If you don't want anything bulky, opt for earbuds that fit inside your ear; to hear every musical detail, try headphones that cover the ear completely
- Listen to your music without the interference of background noise with earphones that offer a noise-canceling feature



CELL PHONE CHARGERS & BATTERIES

- Keep your phone charged no matter where you are; adapters for your cell phone let you use solar power, your car's DC outlet, wall power, or your computer to charge your phone
- Be prepared for emergencies with extra cell phone batteries



MP3 PLAYER DOCKS & SPEAKERS

- Portable speakers let you play music for a group; some include radios and can also play CDs
- With a portable dock, you can recharge your player's battery as you listen to music
- Play your music through car speakers using an FM transmitter



CELL PHONE CASES

- Safeguard your phone from wear and tear with a case
- Universal cases fit most sizes of cell phones; some of these will include clips and wrist straps for portability and accessibility
- Fitted cases specifically fit your phone's model type; these can be hard acrylic casings, rubber sleeves, or leather pouches
- Avoid getting scratches and fingerprints on your phone's screen with stick-on or hard, clear screen protectors



CELL PHONE HEADSETS

- Keep your hands free while still being able to use your phone
- Link compatible cell phones to a Bluetooth headset to make or take calls without a tangled mess of cables
- Use a headset that offers noise-canceling capabilities to ensure you don't miss any of your conversation



MOBILE SERVICES

- Whether your wireless device is brand-new or nearing the end of its life span, your local CE retailer offers services to help you take care of all of its needs.
- Protection plans for GPSes, MP3 players, and cell phones
 - Phone and battery recycling
 - GPS setup and deck installation
 - MP3 vehicle integration
 - MP3 player setup and training
 - Cell phone repair services and loaner phones

HOW TO BUY

An Energy Star Appliance

Save The World, Save Money



The Energy Star logo is emblazoned across a plethora of devices, including appliances. It's a point of pride for appliance makers to achieve the coveted Energy Star certification. Developed by the EPA and the U.S. Department of Energy, Energy Star qualification indicates that a given product meets energy-efficiency standards and helps reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Standards. In addition to ensuring a product's energy efficiency, part of the Energy Star qualification includes not sacrificing performance and features. This means all Energy Star-qualified products deliver the technologies and amenities you need in addition to cutting energy use.

Look for the logo. The best way to see if something meets Energy Star requirements is to simply look for the Energy Star logo on the product label or box.

You've no doubt seen the light blue logo, which includes a star next to the word "energy," on products before, as they're prominently placed on products to make it easier for you to find environmentally friendly and energy-efficient solutions.

... simply look for the Energy Star logo on the product label or box.

Save on your utility bills. In addition to helping the environment, Energy Star-qualified appliances can also help your wallet. Energy Star standards encourage manufacturers to develop more energy-efficient features, which can cut down on unnecessary energy consumption and water usage. If the washing machine or dishwasher plugged into your wall is using less energy or water, you'll pay less in utility bills each month. Those savings can add up fast.

Cash back. Some manufacturers offer sales tax exemptions or credits on Energy Star-qualified products. Thus, you may be able to save money right at the register. In some cases, manufacturers also offer rebates on Energy Star-qualified products. Utility companies may offer rebates, as well. Check to see what offers are available when you buy an appliance.

ESSENTIAL THINGS TO KNOW

High-Efficiency Washers

Q What is a high-efficiency washer?

A An HE (high-efficiency) washer features several improvements over traditional washers to reduce its impact on the environment while maintaining a high level of effectiveness at cleaning clothes.

Q How do HE washers help the environment?

A The main way in which HE washers are “greener” than regular units is that they use less energy, which usually correlates to lower greenhouse gas emissions.

Q What else makes HE washers more environmentally responsible?

A HE models make use of much less water than run-of-the-mill units for washing and rinsing laundry. Clean water is a critical natural resource that’s scarce in many areas.

Q Is there another benefit to low water usage?

A By using less water, an HE washer saves the gas or electric energy used to heat the additional water required by a traditional model.

Q Do an HE washer’s energy savings extend to the dryer, too?

A Yes. Because HE washers spin the water out of the clothes at a higher speed, they require less drying time and energy.

Q If HE washers use less water, does that mean they need less soap?

A Yes, they use less soap. With an HE washer, you only need to put in a spoonful or so of HE detergent with each load.

Q Why do HE washers need special detergent?

A HE detergents are formulated to produce fewer suds than non-HE detergents. If you use regular detergent, too many suds will interfere with the cycles of your HE washer and soil can redeposit on your clothing.

Q How good are HE units at cleaning clothes?

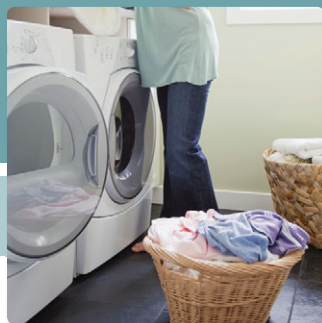
A Quite good, actually, if you use HE-compatible soap and settings appropriate to the load. HE washers rinse clothes very well to eliminate grime and soap residue.

Q What kinds of HE washers are available?

A HE units come in both front-loading and top-loading models. Some have larger capacity for bigger loads and/or gentler agitation for items that normally require hand washing.

Q Do HE washers take longer to clean clothes?

A Yes, in many cases. However, because they shorten drying time, HE washers may not extend the overall time it takes to do your laundry.



NOTEWORTHY

Accessories & Services

After you've selected an appliance, you need to make sure you have all of the necessary extras, such as cords or hoses for installation. It's also good to consider if you want a professional to deliver and install your unit. By adding the accessories below, you can ensure your appliance's performance remains top-notch.



VACUUM BELTS, BAGS & FILTERS

- Replace vacuum belts every year for optimum performance
- Trap airborne pollutants, such as dust particles and debris, with micro allergen or HEPA filter vacuum bags and filters



HIGH-EFFICIENCY LAUNDRY DETERGENT

- Wash clothes better with a detergent that's formulated to work with a high-efficiency washer
- HE detergent prevents damage to your washer, such as leaking, vibration, and poor spinning



GAS FLEX LINES

- **Ranges and laundry dryers.** Gas lines aren't included with these appliances, so you'll need to pick one up
- With an auto shutoff feature, you can protect your home from gas leaks
- Professional installers require a new gas line



UPHOLSTERY & FLOOR CLEANING AGENTS

- Make cleaning easy with products made for particular surfaces, such as multifloor, wood floors, carpet, and upholstery
- Some agents can be used with a variety of products, but others are for use only with specific products



LAUNDRY PEDESTALS

- Raise your front-loading washer and dryer to an easy-to-access and more ergonomic height
- Store laundry supplies in pedestals that double as drawers



REFRIGERATOR BULBS & FILTERS

- Keep a spare bulb on hand to replace burnt-out interior lights
- Ensure your dispensed water and ice always taste fresh with extra water filters



WATER LINES

- **Refrigerators.** Some models include plastic water lines, which are susceptible to twisting or leaks. A better alternative is a line made of metal, such as copper or stainless steel.
- **Washing machines.** Don't settle for the rubber hose that comes with your machine, as it can burst. Instead, opt for a durable stainless steel hose that will last longer.
- **Dishwashers.** Reusing an old water line can lead to water damage. Instead, get a dishwasher kit that includes a water line and power cord for the best performance.



ELECTRICAL CORDS

Power cords aren't included with these appliances. Here's what you should know:

- **Washers and dryers.** All new models use 4-prong cords, but models made before 1984 require a 3-prong cord replacement.
- **Dishwashers.** Purchase a three-prong cord individually or in a kit that includes a water line.
- **Ranges.** Check your home's electrical outlet to get either a 3-prong or 4-prong cord.



APPLIANCES SERVICES

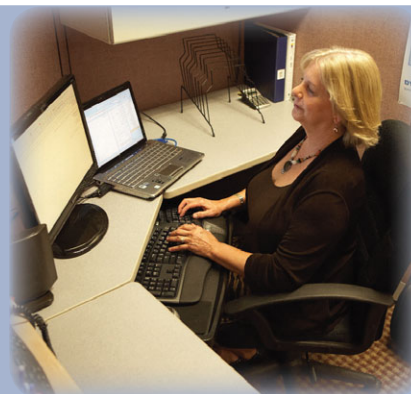
Whether you're buying a new unit or need to tune up your existing one, CE retailers offer professional services like the ones below to help get your appliance up and running in no time.

- Delivery & Installation
- Appliance Recycling
- Appliance Service Plans
- Appliance Repairs

IN THIS SECTION, YOU'LL FIND PRODUCTS AND SERVICES that are suitable for businesses of all sizes. From digital signage that can hold up to prolonged hours of use in a small mom and pop store to powerful servers that can support a corporation's network of hundreds of workers, these pages offer a wide range of solutions for professional needs. No matter your size of business, *First Glimpse's* Built For Business section helps you discover the latest innovative technologies available in-store and online, so you can use them to grow success.

BUILT FOR BUSINESS

From The Smallest Offices ...



... To The Largest Enterprises

Solutions That Cover ...

Not everything a business needs can be found on a store shelf. Depending on the size and demands of your company, you may need to seek solutions through other avenues. Take, for example, Best Buy and its business support.

To help you match the technology and services that fit your company, no matter its size, industry, or obstacles, Best Buy offers consultations with its business experts in stores, online, on the phone, and at your location.

... discover the latest innovative technologies available in-store and online ...

... The Full Business Scope



HOW TO BUY

Office Tech Essentials

Business Basics



Buying tech gear for a small business is different than buying devices for home use. There are features you may need in a commercial environment—even a modest-sized one—that you probably wouldn't at home. Let's take a look using some common office tech essentials as examples.

Computers. Laptops are more often than not a better choice for small office workers than desktops or all-in-one computers. They're easy to take on the road for a business trip or home for the weekend before a project is due. And with a docking station connected to a larger monitor, a keyboard, and a mouse, a laptop becomes a more ergonomic desktop in a trice. Tablets also show some signs of becoming more attractive for business use.

Tablets also show some signs of becoming more attractive for business use.

Software. Vendors offer companies multiuser licensing on software, along with tech support and version upgrade services. Also note that many "free" programs for search, security, and so on are only free for personal use. If you use these to run a business, you're expected to pay for the apps.

Vendors offer companies multiuser licensing . . .

Phones. Conferencing and dual-line support are popular business features for desk phones. As for cell phones, consider equipping your employees with smartphones that tie in well with your network and applications such as company email.

. . . consider equipping your employees with smartphones . . .

Printers. Forget entry-level color inkjets with high ink replacement costs. Businesses require printers that can produce thousands of pages each month (a high duty cycle) at a low cost per page. Also, even small organizations can benefit from multifunction printers that can copy, scan, and fax. Finally, networking via Ethernet or Wi-Fi is a must so the whole office can access the printer.

. . . even small organizations can benefit from multifunction printers . . .

Miscellaneous. From digital projectors in the conference room to networked security cameras keeping tabs on the premises—not to mention high-speed, business-class networking equipment tying it all together—there are plenty of tech essentials to consider for your small office.

BY MARTY SEMS



Use Plastic To Your Advantage

Badgy By Evolis Creates Affordable & Fast ID Badges

If you run a business, you already know how handy those ubiquitous plastic ID badges can be: They're perfect for trade show name tags, employee IDs, customer loyalty cards, student IDs, membership cards, visitor identification, and more.

evolis

Badgy Card Printer by Evolis
\$999.99
www.badgy.com

Save Time & Money

Every time you sign on a new employee or need a replacement card, sending out an order for new badges can be expensive and time-consuming. The Badgy Card Printer by Evolis (\$999.99; www.badgy.com) is a quick and easy all-in-one solution that enables you to design and print your own standard-sized CR-80 (3.37- x 2.13-inch) plastic ID badges. With Badgy, you can custom-design your own cards and print them in color in less than a minute, with photo-quality 300 dpi resolution.

For All Business Types

Badgy is perfect for schools, shops, clubs, and companies wishing to provide an attractive, durable identification card or employee badge that features bright, fade-resistant colors and photo-quality images.



Quick & Easy Setup

Using Badgy is straightforward and simple: It connects to your Windows computer like any other printer, using a USB cable. After it's installed, just insert the blank cards (up to 100 of them) in the hopper, drop in the color ribbon, and it's ready to print. You can design your own cards from scratch, or download any of hundreds of sample templates from the Badgy Web site. There's no special software needed, as the templates are available in a Microsoft Excel format. Select a template, add or change a logo and the text, and you're ready. In less than a minute, you'll have a brand-new, personalized plastic ID badge.

Badgy Overview

- Portable unit that measures only 6.54 x 7.64 x 14.75 (HxWxD) inches and weighs 5.3 pounds with tray
- Color dye sublimation and monochrome thermal transfer (300 dpi)
- 40 seconds per card print speed
- 100 card feeder capacity, 10 card output tray
- Compatible with Windows XP/Vista/7



ESSENTIAL THINGS TO KNOW

Mobile Office Products

Q What types of accessories can I connect to my laptop for presentations on the road?

A There are a variety of portable projectors, including Pico pocket-sized models, that you can use to display your laptop's screen on a wall or projector screen. A wireless mouse is also handy if you need to control the presentation away from your laptop.

Q How much do most portable projectors weigh?

A Pico projectors generally weigh less than half a pound, while more powerful portable business projectors can weigh in around 5 pounds.

Q What are the benefits of a laptop with an HDMI output?

A By using an HDMI cable to connect a laptop to an HDTV, you only need to connect a single cable to play high-quality audio and video from your laptop on a TV for presentations.

Q Can a Bluetooth headset connect to portable devices other than my phone?

A Yes. Bluetooth headsets can also connect to many Bluetooth-enabled GPS navigation devices as well as PCs.

Q What is the maximum distance apart that Bluetooth devices can operate?

A There are three classes of Bluetooth technology. Most Bluetooth headsets are Class 3 (a maximum distance of 3 feet) or Class 2 (a maximum distance of 33 feet) to offer short range communications. Class 1 Bluetooth devices have a range up to 300 feet, but the standard is less common.

Q Can I add Bluetooth functionality to a PC?

A Yes. You can invest in a USB Bluetooth adapter that plugs into a free USB port on the computer.

Q Why should I consider a portable printer?

A A portable printer takes up very little space and lets you print important documents, such as contracts or reference materials, when you're out of the office.

Q What are the benefits of an external hard drive with an eSATA interface?

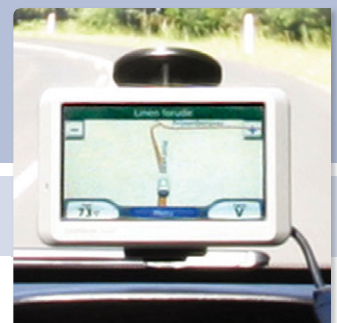
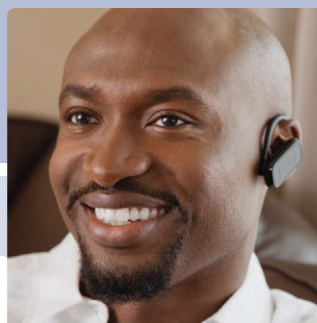
A eSATA is up to six times faster than USB 2.0, so it will take less time for you to transfer files from a computer to an eSATA drive. This can be beneficial when you need to transfer a large collection of video, image, or document files.

Q How much faster is a USB 3.0 external hard drive than one with a USB 2.0 interface?

A A USB 3.0 external hard drive can theoretically transfer data up to 10 times faster than a USB 2.0 drive. However, in most real-world tests, USB 3.0 connections work around three times faster than USB 2.0.

Q Why should I invest in a traditional GPS navigation device when my mobile phone can provide turn-by-turn directions?

A You might temporarily lose the turn-by-turn navigation when you need to make or receive a phone call. Also, your phone's GPS navigation feature can quickly deplete battery life.











Pair Your Business With A Magellan GPS

When it's time for your company to hit the road, you want to make the best use of your time. The Magellan (www.magellangps.com) GPS devices in the chart below are packed with premier features such as 6 million points of interest, Highway Lane Assist, Multi-Destination Routing, Route Optimization, and much more. No matter which model you choose, you'll have plenty of tools to make navigation easy within the United States, Puerto Rico, and Canada.



Product Name	Roadmate 2036	Roadmate 2136T-LM	Roadmate 3045-LM	Roadmate 3065 Commuter	Roadmate 5045-LM	Roadmate 1700	Roadmate 5175-LM Traveler	Roadmate 9055-LM
SKU	9894222	2337263	9895142	9904781	1297328	9464153		2265414
							Image Not Available At Press Time	
MSRP*	\$99.99	\$149.99	\$199.99	\$199.99	\$199.99	\$249.99	\$299.99	\$299.99
Screen Size	4.3 inches	4.3 inches	4.7 inches	4.7 inches	5 inches	7 inches	5 inches	7 inches
Map Upgrade	Pay on Demand	Lifetime	Lifetime	Pay on Demand	Lifetime	Pay on Demand	Lifetime	Lifetime
Traffic	Lifetime	Lifetime	Lifetime	Lifetime	Lifetime		Lifetime	Lifetime
Traffic Wake-up				✓				
Built-in Wi-Fi							✓	
Bluetooth®				✓				✓
Voice Dialing				Via phone				✓
Speed Limits		✓					✓	
Periodic Reporting		✓		✓			✓	
Pedestrian Mode	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
EU Map			Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible
Memory Card Slots			1 microSD	1 microSD	1 microSD	1 microSD	1 microSD	1 microSD
A/V In						✓	✓	✓
USB Cable		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Windshield Mount	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Extension Mount								✓

* Prices listed in this issue are for general reference and may vary from retailer pricing.



Laptop

An Energy-Efficient & Powerful Series



Lenovo® ThinkPad® T410s Notebooks

MSRP: Starts at \$1,299

SKUs: N/A

www.lenovo.com

Quick Overview

The thin and light Lenovo® ThinkPad® T410s notebooks offer an ideal blend of portability, performance, and energy-efficiency. Featuring an Intel® Core™ i5 processor with Intel® Turbo Boost Technology, they can automatically boost processing performance when you need it. Plus, for easier navigation, the T410s is equipped with the UltraNav™ multi-touch touchpad and TrackPoint® pointing device.

Perfect For

Everyday users and businesspeople who want a light and powerful laptop with integrated features that will help them become more productive while on the go.

Outstanding Benefits

- Intel® Core™ i5 processor (2.4GHz to 2.66GHz)
- Lightweight, starting at 3.94 pounds and less than 1 inch thick (0.83 inch)
- 14-inch backlit 1,440 x 900 high-resolution LED screen
- Up to 4.8 hours of battery life; up to 7.9 with additional Ultrabay battery
- Intel® HD integrated graphics or switchable graphics between Intel® HD integrated and NVIDIA® Optimus™ NVS3100M with 512MB graphics
- Choice of built-in 3G broadband, WiMAX, Bluetooth®, and Wi-Fi support
- Genuine Windows® 7 Professional (32- or 64-bit)
- Energy Star® qualified

Coolest Feature

Lenovo's Green Power Scheme, ThinkPad EnergySaver technology, and Battery Stretch help you preserve your laptop's battery life for when you need it the most.

FirstGlimpse

This Month's Blu-ray Disc Releases

Country Strong

Rating: PG-13 | MSRP*: \$34.95 | SKU: 2257424

Release Date: 4/12



Gulliver's Travels

Rating: PG | MSRP*: \$39.99 | SKU: 2019145

Release Date: 4/19



The King's Speech

Rating: R | MSRP*: \$39.99 | SKU: 2137043

Release Date: 4/19



	Date	MSRP*	SKU	Rating
April				
... And Justice for All	4/5	\$17.97	19044959	R
200 MPH	4/26	\$34.95	19108514	Not Rated
Batman Beyond: Return of the Joker	4/5	\$19.98	2180447	PG-13
Benny & Joon	4/5	\$19.99	2288041	PG
Big Cats Collection	4/5	\$34.99	19020174	Not Rated
Blood Out	4/26	\$29.99	19074583	R
Blow Out	4/26	\$39.95	19044922	R
Casino Jack	4/5	\$29.99	2288096	R
Country Strong	4/12	\$34.95	2257424	PG-13
De-Lovely	4/5	\$19.99	19105396	PG-13
Farewell	4/12	\$34.98	18934845	Not Rated
Fiddler On The Roof	4/5	\$29.99	2288069	G
Goemon	4/19	\$29.98	2342042	Not Rated
Gulliver's Travels	4/19	\$39.99	2019145	PG
Highwater	4/12	\$29.97	19046384	Not Rated
Human Planet: The Complete Series	4/26	\$49.96	2350102	Not Rated
Jawbreaker	4/5	\$17.97	19044968	R
Jolene	4/26	\$24.98	18797662	R
Kes	4/19	\$39.95	19044895	PG-13
Lars and the Real Girl	4/5	\$19.99	19105387	PG-13
Le Cercle Rouge	4/12	\$39.95	19044704	Not Rated
Mystic Pizza	4/5	\$19.99	19105369	R
Nature: Broken Tail - A Tiger's Last Journey	4/12	\$24.99	19109874	Not Rated
Nova: Making Stuff	4/26	\$34.99	18934927	Not Rated
Rabbit Hole	4/19	\$29.99	2380876	PG-13
Romeo and Juliet	4/26	\$24.99	19123082	Not Rated
Sharpy's Fabulous Adventure	4/19	\$39.99	2093057	Not Rated
Short Circuit 2	4/19	\$9.98	19046241	PG
Sniper: Reloaded	4/26	\$30.95	19083827	R
Somewhere	4/19	\$39.98	2191094	R
South Park: The Complete Fourteenth Season	4/26	\$57.99	2244078	Not Rated
Stan Lee's Superhumans	4/26	\$39.95	18904771	Not Rated
Street Kings 2: Motor City	4/19	\$29.99	2288032	Not Rated
Sweetie	4/19	\$39.95	19044904	R
Taxi Driver	4/5	\$24.95	2126223	R
The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader	4/8	\$39.99	2209085	PG
The Girl Who Leapt Through Time	4/12	\$39.98	19050369	Not Rated
The Holy Mountain	4/26	\$34.98	2390958	R
The Inheritance	4/12	\$29.97	19046205	Not Rated
The King's Speech	4/19	\$39.99	2137043	R
The Last Continent	4/12	\$24.98	19041042	Not Rated
The People vs. Larry Flynt	4/5	\$17.97	19044977	R
The Scent of Green Papaya	4/26	\$29.95	19093636	Not Rated
The Terror	4/26	\$15.99	19090296	Not Rated
The Way Back	4/19	\$24.99	2390912	PG-13
Tron	4/5	\$39.99	2093048	PG
Tron Legacy	4/5	\$39.99	2093093	PG
Universe: The Mega Collection	4/26	\$179.95	2292578	TV-14
Aloha Scooby-Doo!	4/5	\$19.98	2180378	Not Rated
Babe	4/5	\$26.98	2088052	G
Much Ado About Nothing	4/5	\$19.99	19105378	PG-13

*Prices listed in this issue are for general reference and may vary from retailer pricing.

ESRB Game Ratings & Descriptions

Find Material That's Appropriate For Your Kids

ESRB (Entertainment Software Rating Board) Ratings

In order for parents to select gaming software appropriate for their children, ESRB (www.esrb.org) ratings are listed on the front and back of most game packages to provide concise and impartial details about a title's content.



Early Childhood.

Titles with this rating have content that may be suitable for children ages 3 and older. These software titles contain no material that parents would find inappropriate.



Teen. Titles with this rating have content that may be suitable for children ages 13 and older.

Titles in this category may contain violence, suggestive themes, crude humor, minimal blood, simulated gambling, or infrequent use of strong language.



Everyone. Titles with this rating have content that may be suitable for children ages 6

and older. Games in this category may contain minimal cartoon, fantasy, or mild violence and infrequent use of mild language.



Mature. Titles with this rating have content that may be suitable for persons ages 17

and older. Games in this category may contain intense violence, blood and gore, sexual content, or strong language.



Everyone 10+. Titles with this rating have content that may be suitable for children ages 10 and

older. Games in this category may contain more cartoon, fantasy, or mild violence and language as well as minimal suggestive themes.



Adults Only.

Titles with this rating have content that is only suitable for persons 18 years and older. Games in this category may include prolonged scenes of intense violence, graphic sexual content, or nudity.

For additional information, ESRB ratings on the back of game packages include content descriptions and depictions.



GAMING TIPS FOR PARENTS

Aside from checking a game's ESRB rating, there are other ways you can ensure the games your youngsters are playing are age-appropriate.

- Carefully look at everything on a title's packaging, including the game graphics.
- Find game reviews, screen shots, or demos to get a better idea of a game's content.
- If available, use the game's parental controls to restrict inappropriate content.
- Learn about games by talking to other parents and older children who are familiar with or have played certain titles.
- Participate in your children's gaming and discuss their games as much as possible.
- Be aware of nonrated ESRB material a game may contain. "Mods" are program downloads that can alter a game's content, and online games often have live player chats as well as other user-generated content.

Which Game System Is Best For You?

Game consoles and portable devices are no longer limited to gameplay. They can also access the Internet, download media, and play your favorite DVDs or CDs. To help you find a game device that will suit you best, here's a comparison of the most popular selections you can find at your local CE retailer.

		Hard drive size	Compatible memory cards	Optical drive	Video resolution output	Ports
	What It Means	How much data the system can hold	Cards that will let you save and offload data, such as game saves or personal media	Aside from game discs, other playable media formats	Highest number of video pixels that is sent to a TV or portable console screen	Hookups for controllers as well as video and audio outputs
Console Devices	 Sony PlayStation 3 With PlayStation Move MSRP: \$399.99* SKU 1122275	320GB	PlayStation and PlayStation 2 cards with optional USB memory card adapter	CD, DVD, BD	1,920 x 1,080	1 A/V, 1 Ethernet, 1 HDMI, 1 optical digital audio, 2 USB
	 Nintendo Wii MSRP: \$199.99* SKU 9916446	512MB	SD/Nintendo GameCube Memory Card	Can only play game titles	720 x 480	4 controller, 1 A/V Multi Out, 2 USB
	 Microsoft Xbox 360 4GB Console With Kinect MSRP: \$299.99* SKU 1162439	4GB	USB flash drive	CD, DVD	1,920 x 1,080	1 optical audio out, 1 Ethernet, 1 HDMI, 5 USB, Kinect port
Portable Devices	 Nintendo DSi MSRP: \$149.99* SKU 9249725	256MB	SD	None	Dual 256 x 192	1 headphone, 1 microphone
	 Nintendo DSi XL MSRP: \$169.99* SKU 9760166	256MB	SD	None	Dual 256 x 192	1 headphone, 1 microphone
	 Sony PSPgo MSRP: \$199.99* SKU 9459659	16GB	Memory Stick Micro	None; download to internal and removable memory only	480 x 272	1 USB, 1 headphone
	 Sony PlayStation Portable 3000 MSRP: \$169.99* SKU 9175082	64MB	Memory Stick Duo	UMD (Universal Media Disc)	480 x 272	1 video out/ headset, 1 USB, 1 DC out

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	Online community	Wi-Fi access; Media streaming	Parental controls	Compatible game formats	Included accessories & services	Available accessories	Controllers	Perfect for
	Web site membership for downloads, upgrades, and more	Access the Internet without a cable hookup; Send and receive media wirelessly	Helps parents decide what content their kids can or cannot access	Game titles that can be played on the game system	Accessories included with the console	Extras that can help enhance your gameplay	Included controllers; wired/wireless controller compatibility	Who can benefit from the special features the gaming system offers
	Yes, free PlayStation Network membership	Yes, 802.11b/g; Yes—Netflix and content from your home network	Options available for games, BDs, DVDs, and Internet access	Sony PlayStation 3 titles and select PlayStation titles	DualShock 3 wireless controller, Move motion controller, Eye Camera, USB cable, PlayStation Network membership, A/V cable	Move Navigation controller, Blu-ray remote, Bluetooth headset, memory card adapter, wireless keypad, cables	Includes 1 DualShock 3 wireless controller; wireless	Someone who wants the value of a full gaming system with a BD player and media streaming
	Nintendo Wi-Fi Connection	Yes, 802.11b/g; Yes—Netflix	Options available for games, online features and downloads, and more	Nintendo GameCube and Wii titles	Wii remote and nunchuck, sensor bar, Wii Sports game, console stand, A/V cable, adapter	Wireless Wii remote, wheel, classic (wired) controllers, wireless sensor bar	Includes 1 wireless Wii remote and nunchuck; both (some titles require a wired remote)	Gamers of any age who want a unique wireless gaming experience that requires little gaming knowledge
	Xbox LIVE	Yes, 802.11n; Yes—Netflix and content from your home network	Options available for games, Xbox LIVE, console play time, and a Family Settings pass code	Xbox 360 supports backward compatibility of the original Xbox, Xbox 360, and Xbox LIVE Arcade titles	Kinect Sensor, Wireless controller, Kinect Adventures game, A/V cable, free one-month trial to Xbox LIVE Gold	HDMI cable, USB flash drive, Xbox LIVE headset, Play & Charge Kit	Includes 1 wireless controller; wireless	Those who want an Xbox console with a Kinect Sensor to play games only with body movement, built-in wireless capabilities, and more
	Nintendo Wi-Fi Connection	Yes; Yes	Options available for Nintendo DSi content	Nintendo DSi and Nintendo DS titles	AC adapter, 2 styli	Audio headset, battery power pack, screen protectors, carrying cases, styli	N/A	Users who want a handheld gaming system that lets them take, personalize, and share photos
	Nintendo Wi-Fi Connection	Yes; Yes	Options available for DSi software, DSi Browser, DSi Shop, and more	N/A	Rechargeable battery, AC adapter, stylus, and 4 preinstalled titles	Cases, adapters, headphones, full-sized stylus	N/A	Those who want a handheld gaming system better-suited for social gaming with a large screen
	Yes, PlayStation Network	Yes, 802.11b; Yes	Included	Available for download from PlayStation store	AC adapter, USB cable	Protective screen film, cradle, headphones, memory cards, cases	N/A	Those who need a bigger screen for their gaming, Internet, and media entertainment
	Yes, free PlayStation Network membership	Yes, 802.11b; No	Options available for UMDs, Internet, and video downloads	PlayStation Portable titles	AC adapter, battery pack	Battery charger, travel case, memory cards, A/V cable, AC adapter, car adapter	N/A	Those who want to enjoy gaming as well as movies, photos, and music when they're on the go

NOTEWORTHY

Accessories & Services

The gaming experience goes beyond the game itself—you need the right console peripherals and the best just-in-case services. We've compiled a list of some of the must-have accessories that will only enhance your gameplay, so be sure to remember these items on the next trip to your local CE retailer.



RACING WHEELS

- A gaming steering wheel puts you in the driver's seat of a virtual race
- A comfortable, accurate wheel will give you more control with turns, braking, and acceleration
- Be sure to purchase a racing wheel that's compatible with your specific game console



USB DEVICES

- A USB media hub will let you connect other USB devices (including MP3 players and portable game devices) to your game console
- Use a USB rechargeable battery pack to charge the Li-Ion battery for guitar controllers



EXTERNAL MEMORY

- External hard drives, USB drives, or memory cards back up your in-progress games
- When additional memory is connected to live (online) games, you can save gaming content and downloads
- The more memory you have, the more games and downloads you'll be able to store



WIRELESS CONTROLLER

- Bluetooth technology lets you play while also having the freedom to move around
- Some controllers use traditional AAA batteries to sustain your playing time
- Find the best design for your grip: ergonomic or traditional



GAMING KEYBOARD

- Adding a keyboard can help game efficiency—type in text codes and chat with other players quickly
- Look for a model with a touchpad so you can easily scroll around the game display
- Models that offer hotkeys will enable you to quickly perform tasks, such as gameplay actions



MUSIC CONTROLLER ACCESSORIES

- Add a heavy-duty bass pedal to your gaming drum set to replace your standard pedal
- A tripod microphone stand will make your song-based games more true to life
- Extra cymbals for your rock drum kit will give you more freedom to express musical ability



HEADSETS

- Use a hands-free headset to enhance your gaming experience by planning strategies aloud with your team
- A Bluetooth 2.0 headset is designed to communicate with your game console; Bluetooth headsets will be compatible with most game consoles
- Consider noise-canceling headsets with echo-minimizing microphones so you can hear and be heard clearly



GAMING SERVICES

Your local CE retailer provides some helpful services, both in-home and in-store, to enhance your game console. Specifically, the professionals can set up online connections, install system updates, and transfer data to a game storage device.

- Configure online accounts
- Console system updates
- Stream media from a PC to a game console
- Connect a console to a home-theater system

Media Tablets

UNTIL NOW, MEDIA TABLETS may not have been much more than a blip on your radar. Overall, these are hybrid devices—a dash of notebook PC, a pinch of smartphone, a scoop of MP3 player—but don't have the history or entrenched user base of any one device. Eventually, though, their prominence is likely to rise. Let's take a look at what this young class of device is and how it might fit into your life.

What Is & Isn't A Media Tablet?

What qualifies a device as a media tablet depends, to an extent, on who's doing the defining. For instance, ABI Research describes a media tablet as a device with a touchscreen of 5 to 11 inches, Wi-Fi Internet connectivity, and video and gaming capabilities.

The feature list doesn't necessarily end there. A media tablet may also play digital music, access email, display photo libraries, function as

an ebook reader, and let you view or work with documents such as PDFs and word processing files. In addition, it might run the kind of small specialized applications that were first developed for smartphones. Finally, accessories unique to a particular model may further extend its capabilities.

Media tablets with the ability to make or receive phone calls are starting to appear. These models are larger than your typical smartphone, but the trade off is a screen that's large enough for media enjoyment. You'll also find the typical tablet doesn't have the computing power of most notebooks or netbooks—or a keyboard, for that matter—for that reason it won't automatically be a complete replacement for those devices.

Then again, a touchscreen can easily implement an on-screen keyboard, or a device may permit connecting an external USB keyboard when you need one. And computer processor chips get more powerful every year.

Ultimately, media tablets are new, flexible devices and could soon evolve beyond the features and limitations that currently characterize them.

Small Size, Big Variety

To use a typical media tablet to its fullest extent, you need at least two things: some form of content to put on it and an online connection.

And consider this third strong recommendation: a protective sleeve. Media tablets don't fold up like notebook computers do, so the screen is vulnerable even

when the unit isn't in use. This is not a gadget you want banging around unprotected in a purse or backpack.

A media tablet's compact size, light weight, and flat design make it equally convenient to carry around the house or on the go.

For instance, if you're a film buff short on time to spend in one place, now the movie can follow you anywhere. Start it in the kitchen, continue it on the treadmill, and finish it off in bed.

Or maybe you're a voracious reader who's notorious for taking a stack of books along on vacation. Stuff a media tablet with 100 ebooks, and it won't weigh any more or take up any more room than a single hardback.

And a media tablet can definitely be utilized if you often find yourself waiting for something and want to use those five- and 10-minute chunks of time productively. Review an office spreadsheet just before the kids get out of school or update your Facebook page while waiting in that sluggish line at the coffee shop. A media tablet can have a distinct edge over a notebook PC here, especially if you're standing.

Yours For The Taking

So far, there's little or nothing a media tablet does that other more familiar gadgets don't already do. It's how the tablet brings everything together, and how convenient its functions are to access anywhere, that determines whether this is a device you'll use.

Still, a smartly designed media tablet that can adapt to your needs is likely to make your day easier, more productive, or just more fun.

BY BRIAN HODGE



Dell Streak 5 | \$99.99 with a two-year service provider agreement | www.dell.com

Dell Streak 5 Pocket Tablet Phone

At first glance it might just look like an oversized smartphone, but the Dell Streak 5 (\$99.99 with a two-year service provider agreement; www.dell.com) is much more than that. It's also an Android tablet that can navigate, entertain, and keep you connected when you're on the go.

Using 3G connectivity, the Streak's built-in GPS and turn-by-turn, text-to-voice guidance from Google Maps deliver real-time map information to get you from point A to point B. And the Streak is also a multitasker—it can juggle more than one application at a time, letting you simultaneously map a destination and listen to your favorite tunes or call a friend who's supposed to meet you for a bite to eat.

Because it's bigger than most smartphones, it offers a 5-inch screen that's optimized for browsing the Web, playing games, watching video, and much more. Durability is also kept in mind, as the high-quality touchscreen is made from Gorilla Glass, which can withstand scratches and other damage.

The included Stage User Interface grants you quick and easy access to your favorite apps, including Facebook and Twitter, so you can easily keep up with the latest happenings in the lives of your friends and family via their real-time updates. ●

A Spring Refresher

Products To Help Rejuvenate
Your Mind & Body



Omron Full-Body Sensor Monitor & Scale

Track how well you're meeting your health and fitness goals with a scale that measures total weight while also calculating BMI and body-fat percentage.

\$34.99



Sportline 915 Solo Heart Rate Watch For Women

Springtime means that we can finally start to unearth ourselves from our winter cocoons and get out and about. Track your heart rate as you work out with this watch.

\$59.99



Oster 10-Speed Blender

Add some fresh-fruit smoothies to your diet for a burst of healthy food-induced energy.

\$34.99



HoMedics Neck & Shoulder Massager

Sometimes all you need to feel refreshed is a good massage. This 2-speed massager has a heat option, too, so you can soothe sore muscles.

\$19.99



Finis Circuit Trainer

Make the most of your workouts with interval training. The Circuit Trainer helps swimmers monitor rest and exercise ratios to improve both strength and endurance.

\$129.99



Sony W-Series Walkman

An MP3 player can help motivate you while you exercise, and this one will stay put while you get moving. It's even sweat-resistant, so feel free to dial up the workout.

\$59.99





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